

ARAB TIMES

NO. 7235

THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 28-29, 1988

RAMADAN 12, 1408 AH

20 PAGES 150 FILS

Tehran diplomats asked to leave within a week

Saudis sever ties with Iran

RIYADH, April 27. (Agencies): Saudi Arabia, pushed to the limit by Iranian threats in the Gulf, has severed ties with Tehran and ordered all Iranian diplomats out of the kingdom within a week.

Riyadh accused Tehran of "terrorism and subversion" and decided to cut ties yesterday after almost a year of trading insults. Threats and accusations following clashes at the pilgrimage to Makkah last July.

An official statement said the Iranian charge d'affaires here was summoned to the Foreign Ministry yesterday and told of the decision.

Decision

Iranian diplomats and their families here number around 30. Riyadh has fewer than 10 people at its Tehran mission.

Iran today blamed Saudi Arabian cooperation with US for the Saudi decision to break diplomatic relations with Iran.

Riyadh "endeavoured to make Iran, through various channels of contacts, understand the kingdom's eagerness to normalise ties ... but this positive

attitude did not receive any response from the Tehran side which persisted in its hostile practices," an official statement said.

Saudi Arabia, a firm supporter of Tehran's Gulf war enemy Baghdad, and Iran enjoyed a brief period of improved ties in 1986 when they cooperated within the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries to curb production to stabilise the world market.

Linked

The broken relations will affect their efforts within the organisation, but experts said it was too early to predict how the oil market would react to the news.

Since the clashes in Islam's holiest shrine, Iran has attacked shipping linked to Gulf Arab states and fired at least eight missiles at Kuwaiti oil installations.

The statement added: "In view of the Iranian hostile attitude toward the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the premeditated offences to basic Saudi interests and as a result of the Iranian government's attitude that run counter to the principles of international

law and diplomatic traditions: "On account of Iran's violation of the principles of good neighbourliness and mutual respect, as exemplified in the attempt to smuggle explosives into the kingdom during the pilgrimage season of the Hijra year 1406 (1986) to imperil the safety of pilgrims and the sacred places;

"Because of Iran's manipulation of religious rituals and its instigation of dissent and unrest among the sons of the Islamic nation:

"Due to Iran's repeated attempts to harm the basic interests of the kingdom, and its obstruction of free navigation by raiding ships sailing to and from Saudi Arabia, in addition to other forms of terrorism and subversion:

Saudi Arabia, current chairman of the GCC, has in the past, along with Kuwait, tried to convince the alliance to take a harsh stand towards Iran.

Diplomats say Oman and the United Arab Emirates, which both have good political and trade links with non-Arab Iran, were in favour of a dialogue with Tehran and blocked the moves to boycott Iran.

Their objections apparently fell through when Iran last week attacked a UAE oilfield in the Gulf causing heavy damages to a platform, a US supply ship and a British-flagged tanker.

The raid was Iran's apparent response to an attack by US forces in the Gulf on Iranian targets in the waterway.

Some diplomats see Riyadh's move as a way to get out of issuing visas for Iranian pilgrims seeking to go to Makkah in July.

Saudi Arabia wants to avoid a repetition of last year's events in which 402 people, mainly Iranians, died.

Deal

Riyadh has warned Iran several times that its forces would deal firmly with any attempts by Iranian pilgrims to create unrest this year.

But Iran, which usually sends 150,000 people to Makkah—the largest group of foreign pilgrims—said its people would demonstrate again this year at the pilgrimage.

Saudi Arabia's move may encourage its smaller regional allies to follow it if Iran attacks their interests in the region.

US can't counter each Iranian attack: admiral

WASHINGTON, April 27. (AP): American warships cannot be expected to counter every Iranian attack on merchant ships in the Gulf despite last week's demonstration of US military prowess, the Navy's top admiral said yesterday.

"I can offer the observation of a lot of personal pride and satisfaction in the way they did their jobs," said Adm. Carlisle A.H. Trost, the chief of naval operations, referring to fighting on April 18 that saw six Iranian vessels crippled or sunk and no US ships hit.

Craft

"But if someone wants to make an iron-clad guarantee that we will counter any attack, I'd say first of all that such a guarantee would be patently impossible because you cannot foreclose the possibility of attack by those large numbers of small craft that always present over there," Trost said in an interview.

In Bahrain, Western military sources said that Iran's Navy has

pressed a landing ship and supply vessel into emergency patrol duty in Strait of Hormuz.

The make-shift force, taking over the surveillance role of Iran's frigates disabled and sunk by the US Navy, has been sighted keeping watch on merchant shipping in the Strait for the last two days but has not openly challenged vessels.

The Iranian Navy was decimated by the Americans and they really are down to the bare bones of their fleet now," said one military source.

Meanwhile, Baghdad accused Tehran of shelling two Iraqi cities during the previous 24 hours and warned of strong retaliation.

A high command communiqué said Iranian gunners hit residential areas of the southern port of Basra and the northern Kurdish centre of Sulaymaniyah on Monday night and Tuesday in a "deliberate attempt to ignite the war of the cities."

Tilak Beddawela, a senior officer at the police station in nearby Kandy, said the explosion was believed to have been caused by a time bomb planted in a garbage bin near the news stand.

Bomb blast

COLOMBO, April 27. (AP): A bomb exploded near a government-run news stand today in a town in central Sri Lanka, injuring three people, police said.

Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party received some of the money.

The payoffs allegedly totalled about \$50 million.

Rajiv denied that he or any member of his family had received any money from Bofors. Later, the prime minister said no Indian had taken payoffs.

Bofors had contracts with various agents in pursuing the arms deal, but terminated them when the Indian government insisted that no middlemen be used. The parliamentary committee acknowledged that Bofors paid \$19 million Swedish kroner (\$55 million) to three companies as compensation for ending the contracts, but said it had no evidence to link the payments with the winning of the gun deal.

Contracts

The report of the 35-member Parliament committee, made public yesterday after nearly nine months of investigation, said no bribes appear to have been paid by Bofors AB of Sweden.

However, committee member Aladi Aruna, another opposition politician, said the report "covered up the connivance" between the government and Bofors.

The payoff charges initially were made last April by Swedish radio. Indian opposition party members and newspapers alleged that loyalists of Prime

Minister Rajiv Gandhi's Congress Party received some of the money.

The payoffs allegedly totalled about \$50 million.

Rajiv denied that he or any member of his family had received any money from Bofors. Later, the prime minister said no Indian had taken payoffs.

Bofors had contracts with various agents in pursuing the arms deal, but terminated them when the Indian government insisted that no middlemen be used. The parliamentary committee acknowledged that Bofors paid \$19 million Swedish kroner (\$55 million) to three companies as compensation for ending the contracts, but said it had no evidence to link the payments with the winning of the gun deal.

Excessive

Opposition parties and newspapers have contended that such payments would have been excessive and that they were tantamount to bribes.

The English-language newspaper the Hindu today published a document, it said, was an agreement between Bofors and one of the three companies that got the payments.



The Saudi office after the explosion

Bomb blast devastates Saudia office

Arab Times Report

AN EXPLOSION ripped through the central Kuwait City office of the Saudi Arabian airline Saudia yesterday.

The explosion came less than 24 hours after Riyadh cut diplomatic ties with Tehran.

Witnesses said ambulances and fire engines raced to the scene after a loud blast at about 4.20 pm (1320 GMT). They said it was unclear if there were casualties.

The Saudi office is across the street from the Meridien Hotel and staff there said the area had been cordoned off by police.

Nine bomb blasts shook Kuwait last year and diplomats and the local media blamed pro-Iranian militants.

The witnesses said the blast caused serious damage to the facade of the Saudi office.

Security sources said one guard was injured and rushed to hospital.

Seven shop windows next to the Saudi office were smashed by the blast and shards of glass were found within a radius of more than 50 metres.

Broken

All window panes on the first and second floors and some on the third floor above the Saudi office in Alia Centre were also broken. Arab Moalimeen Travel agency office in Al Muthanna Complex across the road from the Saudi office had also sustained substantial damage, its shop window blasted by the explosion.

The police cordoned off the area surrounding the Saudi office. Scores of policemen were sitting through the rubble looking for clues to the incident.

Makki Al Jumaa, the owner of the Alia Centre was on the scene answering the queries from the police. Most of the employees had left their offices at 1.30 pm, according to a witness.

Since it won the most directly contested seats, the ruling party will also receive 38 of 75 proportional representation seats. But even with those, its total will still be less than the 150 seats required for a majority in the National Assembly, which will enjoy expanded powers under a new constitution adopted last October.

The latest official returns gave

Seoul parliamentary elections

Ruling party fails to win majority

SEOUL, April 27. (UPI): President Roh Tae-Woo acknowledged today that his government will face "many difficulties" because of the ruling party's failure to secure a majority in the 29-seat National Assembly.

Although Roh's Democratic

Party won the largest number of seats in Kim Dae Jung's Party for Peace and Democracy (PPD), 46 to the Reunification Democratic Party (RDP) led by Kim Young-Sam, and 26 to the New Democratic Republican Party (NDRP) formed by former Premier Kim Jong-Pil.

A splinter group candidate and nine independents were also elected.

Unofficial computer projections showed the ruling party winning a total of 123 seats, followed by the PPD with 72, the RDP with 58, and the NDRP with 35.

The strong showing by Kim Dae Jung's party means that Roh, who took over from former President Chun Doo Hwan on Feb 25, will face stiff opposition in the new legislature.

Solid

"I hoped that voters would give the ruling party a solid majority in Parliament so that a president directly elected by them could carry out his promised programme amid stability," a presidential spokesman quoted Roh as saying. "But the hope failed to come true."

"Many difficulties can be expected now," Roh said, adding that political stability is a "major national task."

"I will honour the popular will shown in the elections and do my best to run the state without a hitch," he said.

Syria, PLO forming new alliance

DAMASCUS, April 27. (AP): PLO chairman Yasser Arafat plans to escalate the five-month-old Palestinian uprising in Israeli-occupied territories.

Palestinian officials said as senior Arafat aides met Syrian leaders to cement their renewed "strategic alliance."

Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam held lengthy talks through the night with Arafat's aides on rebuilding the alliance after Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Al Assad ended a bloody

Talks

The meeting ended at 2 am (2300 GMT yesterday). Khaddam and Abd Hamid left today for Tunis, the PLO's headquarters.

But Hani Al Hassan, a

political adviser to Arafat, and Ghoneim remained in Damascus for further talks with Syrian officials on restoring the alliance and mapping out a joint strategy against Israel and the United States' latest Middle East peace proposals.

PLO officials said details of the new alliance would be worked out before an extraordinary Arab summit meeting set for early June in Algiers.

Arafat, who denied Damascus yesterday after meeting Assad, arrived in Baghdad, last night and PLO officials there said he will head a crucial meeting of his commanders "to discuss ways of escalating the Palestinian uprising."

ARAB TIMES

Grand Bingo

KD 250 must be won

COUPONS for Game No. 64 will appear from April 30 to May 5. Last date for sending entries is May 7 and numbers will be drawn from May 9.

PRIZES

Four Corners

KD 25

Top Line

KD 25

First Full House

KD 100

Second Full House

KD 60

Third Full House

KD 40

دعا ام القراء

INTERNATIONAL

Dukakis heads for showdown with Vice-President

Bush clinches nomination

PHILADELPHIA, April 27. (Agencies): George Bush and Michael Dukakis headed toward an autumn showdown after the Vice-President won enough delegates to become the Republican presidential nominee and Dukakis claimed a big boost toward being the Democrats' choice.

Dukakis shied away from claiming the nomination after yesterday's Pennsylvania primary, but he and Bush were already testing themes for the fall campaign, attacking each other on taxes and foreign policy.

Jesse Jackson, despite being overwhelmed by a 2-1 margin in the first one-on-one primary of the 1988 Democratic campaign, said: "We're inspired to run on."

With the nomination in hand for Bush, President Reagan, free to drop his neutrality, was meeting with his vice president today.

Margin

Bush won about 80 per cent of the vote. He now has 1,164 nominating delegates, according to an estimate by the NBC television network. He needs 1,139 to be nominated at his party's August convention in New Orleans.

With 94 per cent of the Pennsylvania votes counted, Massachusetts Governor Dukakis led the Rev. Jackson, the first black to make a major bid for the



Bush: victory

presidency, by 67 to 28 per cent and won by large margins among all groups except blacks.

The contest split along racial lines with Jackson winning more than 95 per cent of the black vote but just 15 per cent of white votes, according to television network polls of voters after they cast their ballots.

That combination gave Jackson primary victories against multi-candidate fields in several states with large black populations, but left him well short in

Michigan caucuses. Prior to yesterday's voting, NBC gave Dukakis a 1,098-857 lead over Jackson in the race for the 2,082 delegates needed to win the nomination at the party's July convention.

Other estimates showed a similar Dukakis lead and political experts say he will be almost impossible to stop.

But Dukakis, 54, refused to lay claim to the nomination.

He told a Boston news conference that his victory was a "very big boost", but responded with a curt "no, I don't" when asked if he now had the nomination wrapped up.

Bush claimed victory even before the day's voting ended and said he could now prepare for a general election race against Dukakis that polls say should be close.

At a campaign stop in Indiana, he said Pennsylvania was "a major milestone for me and shifting of gears in one sense and that I would have a little more time to spend getting ready one-on-one with whoever the democratic nominee is."

He had only a token challenge from former television evangelist Pat Robertson, who remains an official candidate but did not campaign here. Bush's top rival, Senate Republican leader Bob Dole, gave up last month after a series of defeats.

two-man contests.

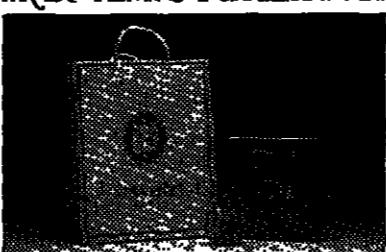
Dukakis also stretched his lead in the race for national nominating delegates by winning more than 150 of the 178 delegates at stake here.

Stopped

Dukakis has now chalked up consecutive primary victories in Connecticut, Wisconsin, New York and Pennsylvania to halt a brief Jackson surge that began after the baptist minister's landslide win in the March 26

On the occasion of the month of Ramadhan and Eid Al Fitr

With every purchase of L'AIR DU TEMPS products, by Nina Ricci, you get a special gift: L'AIR DU TEMPS Perfume Pendant



Available at the following shops:

TANACRA Salia Complex
SULTAN CENTER, Salimiyah
CORTOBA, Salimiyah
FACES, Zebra Complex, Salimiyah
AL FAYASEL, Jaber
SAMMAK FOR PERFUMES & GIFTS, Nugra
SAMAH BEAUTY CENTER, North Nugra Complex
UNION TRADING COMPANY, Salimiyah

Offer valid while stocks last.



Famous Quality from America

GOVERNMENT WARNING: SMOKING IS A MAJOR CAUSE OF CANCER AND DISEASES OF THE LUNGS, HEART AND ARTERIES.

Heart attack patients need 3 days in hospital

NEW YORK, April 27. (Reuters): Patients who suffered a simple heart attack may be able to leave hospital after three days, instead of seven to 10, greatly reducing the cost of treatment, according to a report in the New England Journal of Medicine.

However, an editorial in the same issue warned that the study was not sufficient to justify any sweeping changes in the way heart attack patients are now being treated.

Dr Eric Topol and colleagues at the University of Michigan Medical Centre in Ann Arbor wrote in the April 28 issue of the journal that "in carefully selected patients with uncomplicated myocardial infarction, hospital discharge after three days is feasible and leads to a substantial reduction in hospital charges."

It added: "A conservative estimate based on a total of 750,000 patients per year hospitalised in the United States for acute myocardial infarction, 15 per cent of them meeting the criteria for early discharge would result in a \$30 million-dollar saving."

The editorial, written by Dr Gregory Curfman, a deputy editor of the journal, said: "This single study is not sufficient to justify sweeping changes in current management practices for all patients who may at first appear to have uncomplicated infarctions."

Topol and his colleagues, while acknowledging that further, larger studies are needed to confirm their results, found that selected patients can be released after only three days of hospitalisation and this results in savings in hospital and doctor costs.

Advantage

They also noted that the acceleration of the return to work would clearly amplify the economic advantage of early hospital discharge.

The report said: "The substantial reduction in hospital and professional charges for the patients assigned to discharge on day 3 resulted chiefly from the decrease in hospital room costs."

The lawyers also said they needed more time to read the 5,000-page indictment.

Reporters and relatives of the defendants were searched twice before entering the heavily guarded courtroom, where the 33

GENERATORS REQUIRED

Requirement for purchase of approx. 30 used diesel powered generators in good working condition with output from 50 KVA up to 100 KVA. Make — Caterpillar preferable with diesel engine, but other manufacturers will be considered.

Send offer with complete details and specifications to telex No. 22317 SALAM — or P.O. Box 164 Safat, 13002 Safat Kuwait. Attn: After Sales Manager

appeal court decision.
It reversed a ruling by a lower court in Grasse last year that it could not hear the civil suit because it concerned a foreign citizen and accusations of fraud outside France.

"This involves a review of how NATO must adjust its nuclear arms after a 1983 decision to remove 1,400 nuclear warheads from Europe and the 1987 signing of a US-Soviet accord to remove hundreds of medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe,"

Nato officials said US Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci briefed his counterparts on preparations in the United States and the Soviet Union for an elaborate 13-year inspection system to check compliance with the intermediate nuclear forces treaty.

He also gave an update on Moscow's efforts to modernise its nuclear arms, sources reported.

Super telescope

TUCSON, Arizona, April 27. (AP): Engineers yesterday lifted a giant oven lid to check a mirror that astronomers hope will lead to the next generation of super telescopes, and the huge piece of cooling glass was pronounced "just fine."

Engineers on Monday began spin-casting glass into what they hope will become a honeycomb bed 11-foot (3.3-meter) mirror, the largest ever to be made in that manner.

The first 24 hours, during which the mirror actually is molten, are the most critical, Peter Strittmatter, director of the state-owned Al-Mussawar weekly, Makram Mohammed Ahmed.

The prosecution has demanded the death sentence for 15 of them and jail for the others. Two defendants are still at large.

One of the accused, Amin Abdullah, 30, told the court they were tortured by police during and after interrogation.

"We were beaten before coming to the court and they will beat us when we go back to our jails. We live in solitary confinement without water and electricity," Abdullah said.

The judge ordered the prosecutor to probe the allegations.

The three-member state security court was set up under emergency laws imposed in 1981 after the murder of President Anwar Sadat. The laws were renewed last month for three years.

Required Immediately

A furniture and curtain company requires

a carpenter

experienced in making Oriental sofa sets and divaniyas. Must have minimum 5 years' experience. Attractive salary according to qualifications. Call no. 2633172 from 9.00 am - 1.00 pm and from 8.00 - 11.00 pm.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Nuclear strategy

BRUSSELS, Belgium, April 27. (AP): The Nato defence ministers today began a two-day session to review their long-range nuclear arms strategy.

This involves a review of how Nato must adjust its nuclear arms after a 1983 decision to remove 1,400 nuclear warheads from Europe and the 1987 signing of a US-Soviet accord to remove hundreds of medium-range nuclear missiles from Europe.

Nato officials said US Defense Secretary Frank Carlucci briefed his counterparts on preparations in the United States and the Soviet Union for an elaborate 13-year inspection system to check compliance with the intermediate nuclear forces treaty.

He also gave an update on Moscow's efforts to modernise its nuclear arms, sources reported.

Ship sinking

OPORTO, Portugal, April 27. (AP): A South Korean crew member was missing and 21 others were rescued last night from a Japanese cargo ship that was reported sinking five kilometres (three miles) off the Portuguese coast, officials said.

The 200-metre (600-foot) Panamanian-registered Reijin Keeled over shortly after leaving Leixoes port outside this northern city, carrying Japanese automobiles to Dublin, Ireland, rescue service and port officials said.

Early today, witnesses said the 58,000-ton ship was listing 30 degrees to port and in imminent danger of sinking.

Hassan ends visit

NEW DELHI, April 27. (AP): Crown Prince Hassan of Jordan left India today after a three-day visit in which he held talks with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on bilateral trade and the Gulf war.

He was seen off at New Delhi's international airport by S.D. Sharma, the Vice-President, and K. Natwar Singh, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs.

Palestinian girl killed

OCCUPIED Jerusalem, April 27. (UPI): Israeli soldiers today shot and killed a 15-year-old girl in a small West Bank village, the first fatal shooting after three days of relative calm in the occupied territories, Palestinian sources said.

Areej Ismail Addie was shot in the head during a raid by Israeli troops in the middle of the night on the village of Kfar Addik, Palestinian sources said. The girl was pronounced dead at Al Imad Hospital in Nablus, a hospital official said.

An Army spokesman had no immediate information on the incident.

The death raised to 167 the number of Palestinians killed since the anti-Israeli uprising began on Dec. 9. An Israeli soldier and a Jewish teenage boy also died in the unrest.

Today's fatal shooting came a day after three Arab commandos and two Israeli soldiers were killed in a firefight on the northern border of Israel.

Two Israeli soldiers were also wounded, one seriously, in yesterday's clash 200 yards (m) inside the Israeli border on the western slopes of Mount Dov, an Army spokesman said.

The border incursion was the first since PLO leaders vowed to carry out reprisals against Israel for the April 16 assassination of PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir.

Army radio reported, meanwhile, that troops along the northern border were on "high alert" after yesterday's battle.

Suspended

Israel, in a rare punishment, temporarily suspended the accreditation of two senior foreign correspondents yesterday because they broke censorship in reporting that Israeli commandos killed Al Wazir.

Yoram Ertinger, director of the government press office, said he summoned Glenn Frankel of the Washington Post and Martin Fletcher of the NBC Television network to tell them their press cards were suspended until the outcome of an investigation into the alleged censorship violation.



The Elegance of Rice

More people are eating rice these days, and the quality they eat is important. Pakistani Basmati Rice gives you quality and taste with Pleasurable fragrance.

So come on over and taste it today.

RICE EXPORT CORPORATION OF PAKISTAN (PVT) LIMITED

EXCLUSIVELY AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
STAYING AT 10TH FLOOR, 11 CHURCHGATE,
MUMBAI-400 001
TELEPHONE: 2270522, 2270523
TELEFAX: 2270524
TELECO: 2270525



The Excellence of Rice

Pakistani Basmati Rice gives you quality and taste with Pleasurable fragrance.

So come on over and taste it today.

RICE EXPORT CORPORATION OF PAKISTAN (PVT) LIMITED

EXCLUSIVELY AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
STAYING AT 10TH FLOOR, 11 CHURCHGATE,
MUMBAI-400 001
TELEPHONE: 2270522, 2270523
TELEFAX: 2270524
TELECO: 2270525

Sikh extremist beaten to death

CHANDIGARH, India, April 27. (Agencies): Shoppers enraged over an attack on Hindus fundamentalists killed one of the assailants yesterday as violence-related to a Sikh separatist drive in Punjab claimed six other lives, authorities said.

As the insurgency-related death toll since last Friday rose to at least 36, officials said work began on a six-feet (1.8 m) high barbed-wire fence along the northern state's border with Pakistan.

India charges Pakistan with supporting Sikh nation named "Khaliqstan." Pakistan denies the charge.

Clubbed

Yesterday, four Sikhs gunned entered the busy Puriagarh market in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar and opened fire with pistols into a tailoring shop owned by members of the Shiv Sena, a Hindu fundamentalist group.

Four Hindus were wounded in the hail of fire, one of whom later died in hospital, police said.

The assailants fled down a narrow valley, three of whom escaped into an orphanage, while a fourth was caught by an angry crowd of pushing shoppers.

"Dozens of people hit him," a police spokesman said. "Everybody came to club him with sticks and bricks. He bled to death in the street."

Shiv Sena called for a general strike today.

Sikh militants killed five people today, including two Hindus

gunned down in broad daylight in defiance of a curfew imposed across Amritsar City to defuse a strike called to protest against separatist violence, police said.

Police reported three Sikhs ambushed four Hindu men as they took a morning walk on the outskirts of the city that is home to the Golden Temple, the holiest Sikh shrine.

They said the hail of fire from Chinese-made assault rifles killed two victims and seriously wounded the other two.

Today's assault came in defiance of a city-wide curfew clamped across Amritsar by authorities trying to blunt a general strike called by the Shiv Sena.

March

Police reported Hindu students staged a march against the separatist cause through the deserted city centre, but reported Amritsar otherwise incident-free.

Some 18 miles (30 km) west of the holy city, near the border village of Lopoke, three militants dragged an unidentified former military serviceman outside his house, shot and killed him, police said.

Police said assailants shot and killed a farmer named Naza Singh in a village close to Jalandhar, 50 miles (80 km) southeast of Amritsar. Naza was the brother of a famed Punjabi poet, Avtar Singh Pash, who along with a friend was killed by militants on March 23.

Kabul marks revolution anniversary

Afghan rebels vow to fight on

KABUL, April 27. (Reuter): Afghanistan marked the 10th anniversary of its leftist revolution, with a show of military strength and pledges to fight on by both the Soviet-backed Kabul government and its Muslim guerrilla foes.

Though statements by both sides signalled no prospective letup in a conflict said to have caused over a million deaths. Soviet troops start pulling out of the embattled Central Asian nation next month.

An agreement to end Moscow's 8-1/2 year military intervention was signed in Geneva on April 14 by Afghanistan and Pakistan with the United States and the Soviet Union as guarantors.

Determined

An agreement to end Moscow's 8-1/2 year military intervention was signed in Geneva on April 14 by Afghanistan and Pakistan with the United States and the Soviet Union as guarantors.

An estimated 115,000 Soviet troops are due to start withdrawing from May 15 over a nine-month period.

Police said assailants shot and killed a farmer named Naza Singh in a village close to Jalandhar, 50 miles (80 km) southeast of Amritsar. Naza was the brother of a famed Punjabi poet, Avtar Singh Pash, who along with a friend was killed by militants on March 23.

Thatcher doubtful of arms accord

TOKYO, April 27. (UPI): British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said she is doubtful the United States and the Soviet Union will sign a strategic arms treaty at the Moscow summit next month, a Japanese newspaper reported today.

"I doubt whether they will get a Start (Strategic arms reduction talks) agreement fully ready for signature because it is much more complicated and time is running along," Thatcher was quoted as saying.

Japanese Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita will meet with Thatcher May 4 in his first trip as prime minister to Europe.

Good

"I would rather have a good agreement which took a longer time than we could have confidence in than one which was not quite right," Thatcher said.

President Reagan will visit Moscow May 29 to June 2 to meet with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Thatcher, 62, said free trade, East-West relations, terrorism and agriculture will be major topics to be discussed at the Toronto summit of Western industrialised democracies June 19-21.

The main task facing threatening countries will be to seek ways to ensure stable growth of the world economy, she said, adding the prescription for a healthy world economy includes keeping inflation down, controlling budget deficits and reducing trade barriers.

Reflecting the concern the book has aroused among propaganda Czars, the Communist Party secretariat, responsible for running day-to-day party affairs, called a special meeting Saturday to ban it, said Chinese sources.

"Lovers and Gamblers," printed in Chinese as "Qingchang Ditu" or "Gamblers on the Stage of Love," was a sizzling 1977 best seller by Jackie Collins, author of such novels as "Hollywood Husbands," "Hollywood Wives" and rock star, and sister of TV actress Joan Collins.

China bans Jackie Collins' best seller

BELJING, April 27. (UPI): China's Communist Party has banned Jackie Collins' 1970s best seller, "Lovers and Gamblers," charging the steamy novel about the sexual antics of a beauty queen and a rock star will corrupt Chinese youth, editors said today.

Reflecting the concern the book has aroused among propaganda Czars, the Communist Party secretariat, responsible for running day-to-day party affairs, called a special meeting Saturday to ban it, said Chinese sources.

"Lovers and Gamblers," printed in Chinese as "Qingchang Ditu" or "Gamblers on the Stage of Love," was a sizzling 1977 best seller by Jackie Collins, author of such novels as "Hollywood Husbands," "Hollywood Wives" and rock star, and sister of TV actress Joan Collins.

Photographic prints in colour or black and white of recent sporting highlights in Kuwait

Action shots from Kuwait National Rally Championship - 3rd Round

Order now for your favourite photograph from:

ARAB & TIMES
Photographic Services
Tel: 4813566 Ext. 232
(Michelle)

There's nothing like spending your weekend with Fuji Film

FUJI FILM

Salmya 571533 2519342
Sheraton 2414999 2540513 3918788
Dahab 3919185
Al Muthanna Shop No. 142
Tel: 2408125

Murab 2422912/3 SAS 5657000

Bangladesh rebels kill 14 settlers

CHITTAGONG, April 27. (Reuter): Separatist tribal rebels shot dead 14 Muslim settlers and wounded at least 15 in attacks on two villages in southern Bangladesh last night, military officials said.

They said the Bengali-speaking residents of the two remote villages in the Chittagong Hill Tracts were shot by guerrillas of the Shanti Bahini who came across the Indian border.

The Shanti Bahini ended a two-month lull in their separatist insurgency on April 24 when they killed seven people and wounded 12 in a machine-gun attack on the hill tracts' village of Comilla.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (14,200 sq km) hill and forest region bordering India and Burma.

Expulsion

They also want the 300,000 Bengali-speaking Muslim settlers they accuse of destroying tribal culture and stealing tribal lands to be expelled from the area.

More than 1,300 rebels, soldiers and civilians have been killed in the 15-year-old insurgency.

Dhaka says the Shantis operate from India and are helped by the Indian border security force. India denies the charge.

Wife of Al Wazir
AMMAN, April 27. (Reuter): The widow of slain PLO military commander Khalil Al Wazir arrived yesterday for her first visit to Jordan since her husband was expelled two years ago.

Intisar Al Wazir told the official news agency Petra she wanted to thank King Hussein and the Jordanian government for preparations they had made to have her husband buried in Amman.

The Shantis, made up mostly of Chakma tribesmen, began

their insurgency in 1973 after the government rejected demands for autonomy for the 5,500 square mile (1

KUWAIT ... GULF

Abu Lisan's discovery

Progress made in AIDS research

By Jadranka Porter

MALE asymptomatic AIDS carriers and individuals with homosexual tendencies have remarkably similar blood levels of five amino acids which differ substantially from levels recorded in healthy individuals, according to the research conducted by Kuwait's leading clinical biochemist, Dr Mustafa Abu Lisan.

The discovery may lead in the future to scientific developments which could result in an extended lifespan for AIDS patients.

Abu Lisan, the director of Clinical Laboratories for the Amiri health region, has studied the levels of amino acids in the blood of asymptomatic HIV (human immune deficiency virus) and seronegative homosexuals. His research showed increased levels of amino

acids valine, serine, glycine and aspartic acid, and significant lowering of cysteine in both groups but not in healthy individuals of the same age and sex.

Clues

This kind of research, says Abu Lisan, could in the future provide some clues as to how to fortify the body's metabolism against the virus or even how to prevent the virus from penetrating a cell.

But the scientist is somewhat handicapped by a small number of specimens in Kuwait which has only 15 AIDS carriers.

However, Abu Lisan says that provisional contacts he has established with scientists in France and the US are encouraging and he hopes to have his data substantiated by those from countries with a larger number of

AIDS patients.

In another research project, Abu Lisan has discovered increased levels of phenylalanine in AIDS carriers but not in healthy individuals or homosexuals. This phenylalanine can be used as a possible marker for identifying seropositive HIV patients.

Phenylalanine is an amino acid related to neurological disorders. If it is established that all AIDS patients suffer from significantly elevated levels of phenylalanine, then the mental torment they are known to suffer could possibly be modified by drastically reducing the levels of the amino acid in the patient's body, says Abu Lisan.

He will present both the research papers at the Fourth International Conference on AIDS to be held in Stockholm from June 12 to 16.



HH the Amir yesterday met Libyan delegate Abdul Aati Al Obeidi (centre).

Amir receives Khaddafi's message

HH the Amir yesterday received Libyan leader's envoy Abdul Aati Al Obeidi who delivered a message to HH the Amir from Khaddafi.

The meeting was attended by Foreign Undersecretary Sulaiman Majid Al Shaheen.

Libyan permanent representative in the Arab League, Abdul Aati Al Obeidi, arrived yesterday for a brief visit to deliver a message to the Amir.

Al Obeidi met yesterday with Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister, Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed, and discussed the need to strengthen Arab solidarity in the face of foreign challenges.

The Libyan envoy, who flew in here from Saudi Arabia in the context of an Arab tour, told Kuna after the meeting that he and Sheikh Sabah reviewed bilateral relations and Arab developments.

"We sensed a need for consultation and reviving Arab solidarity against threats besetting the Arab nation on all fronts," the Libyan emissary added.

Condemned

On the recent Kuwaiti airliner hijack, Obeidi recalled that his government had condemned the plane's seizure, noting Libyan leader Moammar Al Khaddafi had expressed, in a telephone contact with the Amir, Libya's readiness to intervene and save the aircraft and passengers.

Obeidi pointed out that Libyan people joined Kuwaitis in rejoicing at the satisfactory

end to the crisis.

"We have always affirmed our condemnation of terrorism, and refusal to accept hijacked airplanes," the Libyan official went on.

Uprising

Replying to a question, the official said Libya would take part in an Algerian proposed Arab summit, slated for June, to discuss concerted Arab support for the Palestinian popular uprising.

"We would definitely participate particularly as it would discuss the uprising of the Palestinian people in the occupied lands, and the Palestinian issue at large," Obeidi went on.

Foreign Undersecretary, Sulaiman Majid Al Shaheen, and the Libyan Charge d'Affaires to Kuwait took part in the meeting between Sheikh Sabah and Obeidi.

The Libyan envoy pointed out that the message which he had conveyed to the Amir in the morning dealt with current Arab developments and bilateral relations.

He indicated that he felt very understanding from the Amir towards the Khaddafi message.

Later, Radio Kuwait reported that Interior Minister Sheikh Salem Al Sabah received the Libyan envoy at his office yesterday morning, with bilateral relations topping the talks.

Amiri Diwan extends thanks for support

UPON instructions of HH the Amir, the Amiri Diwan extended thanks and appreciation to all individuals, citizens and expatriates alike, and all institutions, syndicates, non-profit societies, schools, institutes, clubs, sports unions and communities for their cables of support for the Kuwaiti stance vis-a-vis the hijack ordeal, their condolences for those martyred in the process and congratulations for the safe return of the hostages.

The cables reflected one stance: that of Kuwait which rejects all forms of blackmail and terrorism and proved that citizens and expatriates stand united reflecting unity and cohesion of Kuwait and their backing for its political leadership, the Diwan added in a statement.

It emphasized that Kuwait, which has based its policy on noble humanitarian doctrines and which believes in Islamic teachings of charity, justice and amity among people, will remain firm with its principles in confrontation of hardships and in times of welfare believing in the Holy Quranic verses:

"Ye who believe, seek help with patient perseverance and prayer; for God is with those who patiently persevere."

"And say not of those who are slain in the way of God: 'They are dead', nay, they are living, though ye perceive it not."

"Be sure we shall test you with something of fear and hunger, some loss in goods or lives or the fruits (of your toil), but give glad tidings to those who patiently persevere..."

"Who say, when afflicted with calamity: 'To God we belong, and to Him is our return.'"

"They are those on whom (descend) blessings from God, and mercy, and they are the ones that receive guidance."

The Amiri Diwan prays to God Almighty to preserve our beloved country's cohesion and brotherhood and to rest the souls of its martyrs in heaven and preserve Kuwait, its citizens and residents from harm, the statement concluded.

KUWAIT PRESS DIGEST

Jabriya's return

A KUWAITI daily yesterday wondered why the Kuwaiti jettison "Jabriya" has not returned back home, saying the Kuwaiti people have the right to know all the facts.

Al Rai Al Aam newspaper, said a government statement has to be issued to clarify and tell the people "what happened to the plane... is it really under checkup or is it impounded waiting to fulfill a promise or a demand."

It noted that to remove any technical fault in the Jabriya does not require all this time.

The Kuwaiti people who stood by the government during the 16-day ordeal, the paper reiterated, have the right to be informed about all the details.

The Kuwaiti people have the right for extradition of the air pirates who hijacked the Kuwaiti airliner and killed two innocent persons, it added.

Kuwait was not the only target, Al Rai Al Aam asserted, the hijack operation aimed at penetrating the Arab security in oil.

Revival of Syria-PLO ties

KUWAIT's daily Al Watan yesterday hailed the revival of Syrian-PLO relations, noting that Israeli war minister's threats over this issue indicate the resumption of such ties was a right step.

Editorially commenting on the recent Palestinian-Syrian developments, Al Watan said the blood of assassinated leader Abu Jihad did not go in vain but blossomed after his martyrdom.

Al Watan urged all concerned parties to remember the approximately 5-month Palestinian uprising, especially with the return of Syrian-PLO relations.

Five arid years had passed since the breakup in Syrian-PLO relations during which the Palestinian blood was shed in more than one area and in more than a nihilistic war, said the local daily.

Only an ignorant can undermine the recent improvement in Syrian-PLO relations, the paper concluded.

Iraq capable of meeting everyday needs

PARIS, April 27, (Kuna): Despite seven years of full-scale war, Iraq is capable of meeting the everyday needs of the people, reported a French newspaper yesterday.

In a dispatch from Baghdad, "Le Figaro" newspaper said the Iraqi authorities have taken necessary measures to provide people with food at official prices without ration and no black market."

It noted that the Syrian decision to block the Iraqi pipeline in April 1982 has not affected oil exports which in reality doubled since then.

The paper noted that the war against Iran has forced the country to be indebted, for example three billion dollars to France.

Wanted Secretary male/female

Must have experience in self-correspondence, telex and typing in English and Arabic. Attractive salary.

Tel. 2402631/32,
4638044

Wanted Teachers

For all subjects of English medium, Elementary & Intermediate classes.

Write to P.O. Box
5012 (Safat)
Code No. 13051
Kuwait



● The Minister of Electricity and Water, Dr Homoud Al Rqobah (second right) visited Al Dhahar area on Monday, where he inspected the large area of land which caved in last week.

The ALBA Ramadan quiz could put you in the driver's seat!



It's easy to win!

All you have to do is answer the 7 questions in the coupon below and post it to the following address:

RAMADAN QUIZ
Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons W.L.L.
Electronics Group
P.O. Box 223, Safat
13003 Safat,
Kuwait.

Bring in the coupons to ALBA showrooms in Salmiya—Tel. No. 5755650 and get your FREE GIFT (While stocks last) and 5% discount on any purchase of Alba watches.

All correct answers will participate in a draw to be held on June 2, 1988.

No purchase is required, so do not delay! Fill in the answers today—with Alba, the time is now!

- RAMADAN QUIZ
1. When was oil discovered in Kuwait?
a. □ 1936, b. □ 1938, c. □ 1935, d. □ 1941.
2. Where are ALBA watches manufactured?
a. □ Switzerland, b. □ Japan, c. □ France, d. □ Germany.
3. Which is the biggest island of Kuwait?
a. □ Fallaka, b. □ Om Al Maradem, c. □ Babyan, d. □ Om Al Narem.
4. Who is the ALBA watch manufacturing Co.?
a. □ Tokyo Ltd., b. □ Hattori Seiko, c. □ Seiko, d. □ N.E.C.
5. What is the time difference between Kuwait and Japan during summer time?
a. □ +7 hours, b. □ +6 hours, c. □ +6 1/2 hours, d. □ +8 hours.
6. When were the Kuwait Towers inaugurated and how tall is the largest tower?
a. □ 1978 and 188 meters, b. □ 1979 and 187 meters,
c. □ 1977 and 185 meters, d. □ 1978 and 186 meters.
7. What are the ALBA logo colours?
a. □ Blue & Black, b. □ Blue & Yellow,
c. □ Yellow & Black, d. □ Yellow & Red.

NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
TEL. NO. _____



... or win One ticket Kwt./London/Kwt.
One ticket Kwt./Delhi/Kwt.



... or win a stylish Alba watch!



QUARTZ

Electronics Group
Yusuf A. Alghanim & Sons w.l.l.
An affiliate of Alghanim Industries

US embassies on high alert

Secure air travel briefing guide

By Jadranka Porter

AMERICAN citizens in Kuwait have been handed a set of written guidelines to help them cope with perils of being taken hostage by air pirates.

The "Secure Air Travel Briefing Guide" containing proven techniques developed from the case histories on numerous aviation-related security incidents, originally distributed by the US embassy more than a month ago, resurfaced after the Kuwait Airways flight KU 422 was hijacked on April 5.

The document was first made available at one of the regular bimonthly meetings with representative citizens who were urged to take the tips and share them with other people, the embassy spokesman said.

The guide offers tips on how to deal with the hijackers, fellow passengers and questioning, and how to prepare for violence. It urges the travellers to remain calm and conserve their strength, not to behave in a provocative manner, and to avoid eye contact with the hijackers and drawing attention to themselves.

The travellers are advised not to volunteer to do anything and not to make requests unless absolutely necessary, but to listen carefully and follow the instructions of the hijackers without indicating agreement or disagreement.

In a set of pre-flight guidelines

the travellers are advised to leave air home documents indicating their wealth, controversial titles, their company name, and party membership, or providing sensitive information and addresses or telephone numbers of next of kin and associates in controversial countries.

A passport that shows extensive overseas travel can also be considered a provocative item, the guide says.

US citizens who have made many visits to the same country or have travelled to controversial countries such as Israel and South Africa can obtain new passports for US\$33.

The document was first made available at one of the regular bimonthly meetings with representative citizens who were urged to take the tips and share them with other people, the embassy spokesman said.

The guide offers tips on how to deal with the hijackers, fellow passengers and questioning, and how to prepare for violence. It urges the travellers to remain calm and conserve their strength, not to behave in a provocative manner, and to avoid eye contact with the hijackers and drawing attention to themselves.

The travellers are advised not to volunteer to do anything and not to make requests unless absolutely necessary, but to listen carefully and follow the instructions of the hijackers without indicating agreement or disagreement.

In a set of pre-flight guidelines

the travellers are advised to leave air home documents indicating their wealth, controversial titles, their company name, and party membership, or providing sensitive information and addresses or telephone numbers of next of kin and associates in controversial countries.

A passport that shows extensive overseas travel can also be considered a provocative item, the guide says.

US citizens who have made many visits to the same country or have travelled to controversial countries such as Israel and South Africa can obtain new passports for US\$33.

The preventives measures, details of which were not disclosed, were ordered in the wake of the US-Iranian clashes in the Gulf last week and the subsequent Iranian threats of revenge against Americans and their properties all over the world.

Agents and Distributors in Kuwait: HABCHI & CHALHOUB. Tel.: 2434233.



ANTAEUS
POUR HOMME

CHANEL

PARIS

FRANCE

PARIS

FRANCE

PARIS

FRANCE

PARIS

FRANCE

PARIS

FRANCE

PARIS

EVENTS

Eating under canvas



Table Talk

BY DINAH

THE SAS Hotel has come up with two of the most original and fitting ideas for restaurants in Kuwait: one on board a dhow and the other in a tent, but the two could not be more different in terms of taste. For whereas Al Boom is an intricate work of craftsmanship with an authentic atmosphere, the Tent is sadly a discordant muddle of styles with no real "mood." A construction as barn-like as The Tent needs unity of colour, theme and decor to make it welcoming, but, instead, one is confused by a hotchpotch of bits of sedu, velvet, candleabra, sugar sculptures, stage-set windows, and chairs and tableclothes in green, red, blue pink and brown. A good idea has really been spoilt by thoughtless decor. If the designer instead had made lavish use of sedu weaving, low, diwania-

style seating, brass ornaments, carpets and tent dividers, a soulless marquise could have been transformed into the setting for sheik's banquet.

The Tent offers a buffet dinner every Tuesday night from 7 pm. I would recommend that you get there later, as there is more atmosphere when the place fills up and the "bazaar" — a few forlorn tables displaying some overpriced trinkets — opens. The salad buffet consists of an unattractive display of about a dozen different dishes which are repeated many times over around the table. The accent is on quantity rather than quality or variety, although there were some excellent fresh cooked meats, tiny shrimps and a good selection of breads.

Variety

The main attraction at the Tent is the amazing variety of hot dishes. There is an indoor buffet of various stews such as Osso Bucco, kidney and ratatouille; pizza, whole roast lamb and a wide range of other meat and chicken dishes. If you don't find enough to tempt you here, then outside the Tent there is a barbecue of fish, veal, chicken and tenderloin, a shwarma stand, a falafel maker and a range of Chinese dishes. All of the hot dishes we could manage to try were first class. I particularly like the succulent seafood kebabs, moist barbecued sweetcorn, spicy chickpea cakes and delicious

Chinese noodles.

By contrast the desserts were disappointing consisting of fresh, but rather synthetic tasting gateaux, artificially flavoured mousse, custards, fruit jellies, Attaif, nut-filled pastries and other Arabic deserts.

Service at the Tent leaves a lot to be desired. For each separate course you have to remember to fetch cutlery and napkin from the buffet, as the tables are unlaid. Even when the restaurant was almost empty the waiters didn't come forward to help with the heavy lids of the chafing dishes. They were prompt in removing dirty plates and in refilling glasses, though. No fresh fruit juices are available, only fizzy drinks and a bottle of luke warm water stands on the table. To eat at the Tent costs KD5 per person which is good value for money when one considers the range of hot dishes, but personally I would have preferred an even standard throughout the three courses. Be sure to take a jacket if you go there, as the air-conditioning is Siberian.

RESTAURANT: The Tent at the SAS

TYPE: Weekly buffet

MEAL: 3 course buffet/barbecue

PRICE: KD10 (for two)

STAR RATING (OUT OF FIVE):

FOOD: ★★

SERVICE: ★★

ATMOSPHERE: ★★

VALUE FOR MONEY:

★★★

Story Time

Story Time for children will be held on April 28, 10:30 am, for children of ages between three and six at the British Council in Mansouriya. Children of all nationalities are welcome.

YMCA Holiday Special

The Young Men Cricket Association (YMCA) will hold the Holiday Special on May 17. Messilah Beach Hotel. Highlights are music by Top Ranks with special competitions such as Made for Each Other Contest, Funky King and Queen.

RESTAURANT: The Tent at the SAS

TYPE: Weekly buffet

MEAL: 3 course buffet/barbecue

PRICE: KD10 (for two)

STAR RATING (OUT OF FIVE):

FOOD: ★★

SERVICE: ★★

ATMOSPHERE: ★★

VALUE FOR MONEY:

Laser Sailing

Single Design Dinghy Sailing Club is being formed. Laser sailing enthusiasts contact Ken Balman on 5624111 ext. 751/739.

HOTELS**At the Holiday Inn**

Al Ahmadi Coffee Shop offers special Ramadan buffets with Arabic and Continental buffets after sunset until 2 am.

Sample Oriental delicacies including foul and falafel at the Ramadan Diwaniya for breakfast (Iftar).

At the Hilton

Break your fast with family and friends in La Palma, open daily from sunset to 1:30 am. La Palma offers iftar buffet with thirst quenching drinks and Ramadan specials. A special à la carte menu is offered from iftar to 1:30 am.

Entertain friends or colleagues in La Patisserie, open daily from sunset until midnight. Coffee, cool drinks, ice cream, fresh juice and pastries are on offer.

The Falakha Restaurant has been closed for the month of Ramadan.

At the Meridien

Indian, Japanese and Chinese tea and sweets offered every evening after iftar in the Tea Lounge, until Thursday.

PRAYER

Fajr 3:42 am
Zohr 11:45
Asr 3:21 pm
Maghreb 6:23
Isha 7:46

FRIDAY

Fajr 3:41 am
Friday prayer 11:45
Zohr 3:21 pm
Maghreb 6:24
Isha 7:46

Al Andalus
Ice Pirates
Starring: Mary Crosby
Al Salimya

Latino
Starring: Robert Beltran
Al Hamra

Police Story
Starring: Jackie Chan

Fahadef Open-Air

Brahmacari (Hindi)

Al Fahadeef

Marzada (Bengali)

Drive-In

Hikayat Nus Million Dinar (Arabic)

Starring: Yaha Fakhri, Ilham Shahin

Al Firdous

Ram Balam (Hindi)

Starring: Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, Rekha, Zeenat Aman

Al Jazira

Rajul Didi Al Kanoon

(Arabic)

Al Hindi Drive-In

Bab Nasar (Arabic)

Starring: Bosi, Magdi Wahba, Najwa Fuad

Mod. dep. Swiss Made available in ladies and men's size.

THE shape of excellence.

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 10:09 Holy Quran
10:15 Cartoons
10:30 Mama Anisa and Children
11:10 Open University
12:05 Noor Al Huda: "Wa Bil Waladain Ahsan." Starring: Hassan Al-Bideen, Amina Rizk, Abu Bakr Ezzat, Laila Taher, Ibrahim Al Shaami.
1:00 News Summary
1:30 Tao Tao: cartoons
2:00 Al Mao'lim Bin Ibad: historical serial, featuring Osama Al Mashini, Mahmoud Saed.
3:00 Dukkan Al Duniya: daily serial, starring Muna Wasel, Mohammad Al Ibadi, Jayana Eid.
4:45 Tazawwaj Wa Ibtisam: Arabic serial; starring Samir Ghannem, Raghad, Ahmad Badr, Suad Nasar.
5:30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Dr Ahmad Abu Noor.
6:30 Cartoons
6:45 After Iftar
7:00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial, starring Khalid Al Obaid, Maryam Al Ghadban.
7:45 Bahath An Al Saadah: weekly Arabic serial, featuring

Samir Ghannem.
8:15 With Islam
9:30 Ramadan Contest: hosted by Huda Hussein
10:00 News in Arabic
11:00 Al Iz'aaj: daily serial, starring Ghannem Al Saleh, Zainab Dahi, Maryam Ghadban.
12:45 Al Amlaq: Arabic film, starring Adel Adham, Raghad, Salah Saadani, Susanne Badr. Two prisoners allowed to visit their family escape from police custody while returning to the jail. Directed by Ahmad Al Sabawi.
2:45 News Summary/
Imsak/ Holy Quran/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 10:00 Holy Quran
10:30 Cartoons
10:10 Children's Magazine: a programme for young viewers.
11:00 Hadith: religious programme, presented by Dr Ahmad Abu Noor.
11:25 Friday Prayer from Grand Mosque
12:20 Min Wahi Abi Dulamah: religious serial.
1:00 News Summary
1:25 Tao Tao: cartoons
2:00 On Ramadhan: religious programme
2:30 Al Mao'lim Bin Ibad: historical serial

3:35 Dukkan Al Duniya: daily serial
5:30 Hadith Deeni: religious talk by Sheikh Mohammad Mutwalli Sharawi.
6:35 Cartoons
6:45 After Iftar
7:00 Madinat Al Riyah: children's serial
7:45 Kul Al Funooq: hosted by Rohah Al Farah
8:15 Wrestling
9:00 Deirat Al Khair: Charity
9:30 Ramadan Contest
10:00 News in Arabic
11:00 A talk show on Islam
12:00 Antaba L'roohak: Arabic play, starring Hamdi Ahmad, Samah Anwar, Suad Hussein, Mazhar Abu Al Nabi. The story of a girl who wants to remarry after the death of her first husband.
2:20 News Summary
2:35 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

- 8:00 Holy Quran
8:10 Centurions: cartoons
8:30 News in English
8:45 Football: The Amir's Cup.
10:30 Spenser for Hire: "The Long Hunt". Spenser escorts Don to the prison. Don's father asks Spenser to let his son go.
11:30 The Bill Cosby Show: "The Andalusian Flu". The Huxtables have the flu; and Theo is in charge of the house.
12:00 Late Night Movie: "A Time to Love and a Time to Remember". Starring: John Gavin, Lilo Pulver, Agnes Windbeck. 1958. Dramatic love story set against the background of WW 2. German soldier on furlough from battle falls in love, inevitably must return to the



Linda Hamilton and Ron Perlman star in Friday's feature, *Beauty and the Beast*, on KTV 2.

witnesses refuse to testify in court.
11:30 "Fourth Time Around". Mary introduces two people; and just as quickly she tries to separate them. Comedy.

12:00 Guinness Records: more world records are set in tonight's episode by daring young men and women.
12:30 The Wiseguy: "The Last Rites for Lucci". Vinnie sees a psychiatrist to get over his guilt about betraying Sonny. Starring: Ken Wahl.

1:30 News Summary
1:40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

FRIDAY

- 1:45 Holy Quran
2:00 Basketball
3:45 Big League Soccer
4:45 Feature Film: Red Fury, featuring William Jordan, Catherine Cannon. A rancher faces problems after adopting a Red Indian boy.
6:30 Italian soccer
8:10 Transformers: cartoons
8:30 Out of this World: "The Anniversary".
9:00 News in English
9:40 Islamic Horizon
9:50 Understanding Islam: local religious programme
10:30 The Beauty and the Beast: "The Beast Within". During a strike a man is killed;

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

NIGHT CHEMIST

- Kuwait**
Al Mojil Pharmacy
Mojil Bldg., Abdulla Al Mubarak St.
Baghdad Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Salem St.
Hawalli and Nogra
Al Kindi Pharmacy
Opp. Asian Olympic Council Bldg., Jabiya
Salmya and Rumaihiya
Al Quds Pharmacy
Abdu Karim Khalifa
Mazal Bldg., Amman St.
Fahadef and Ahmad
Bastoor Pharmacy
Qais Al Ghanim Bldg., Dabbous St., Fheil.
Jeeb Al Shiyookh
Al Hassawa Pharmacy
Block 2, Main St.
Jahra
Al Zahra Pharmacy
New Souk
- FRIDAY**
- Kuwait
Al Alamiyah Pharmacy
Jandol Bldg., Fabad Al Salem St.
Ghazwa Pharmacy
Kazzani Bldg., Khalid Bin Al Walid St., Sharg
Hawalli and Nogra
Al Kindi Pharmacy
Opp. Asian Olympic Council Bldg., Jabiya
Salmya and Rumaihiya
Al Quds Pharmacy
Abdu Karim Khalifa
Mazal Bldg., Amman St.
Fahadef and Ahmad
Al Sheba Pharmacy
Sheikh Ahmad Al Jaber Bldg., Fheil
Farwaniya
Al Munawar Pharmacy
South Souk St.
Jahra
Al Khalid Pharmacy
Opp. Cooperative Society

- Sulibikhat
Achuvientente Veedu (Malayalam)
Al Jeeb
Param Dharam (Hindi)
Granada
No Dead Heroes
FRIDAY
Al Jazira
Welcome to 18
Granada
Mere Humdam Mere Dost (Hindi)
Sulabikhat
Tough Busters
Al Jeeb
Kudrat K A Kanoon (Hindi)

RADIO PROGRAMMES**English**

- Morning
0800 Opening
0802 Songs and Music
0805 The Spirit of Islam
0820 Songs and Music
0830 News
0840 Songs and Music
0845 Daily Programme
0900 Pop International
0930 Your Kind Of Music
1000 Our Press Today
1005 Songs and Music
1030 The Hit Makers
1100 Closedown
1330 News on FM Service
- Evening
2100 Opening
2102 Songs and Music
2130 News
2145 Point of View
2155 Songs and Music
2200 Understanding the Holy Quran
2215 Sounds of the Eighties
2300 The Way You Like It
2330 Star Tracks
2400 Closedown

Urdu

- 1900 Opening
1910 Behisht-e-Qasim
1916 Programmes Preview
1920 Songs
1935 Press Report
1940 Perchayian
2000 News
2020 Songs
2040 Radio Magazine
2100 Closedown

BBC World Services

- 0900 World News
09 News about Britain
15 Radio News Review
15 The World Today
30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup
45 Society Today (ex 7th The Story of English)
1000 News Summary followed by Assignment
30 King Street Junior (ex 28th Two Cheers for April)
1100 World News
09 News about Britain
15 New Ideas
25 A Letter from England
30 Citizens
- 1200 Radio Newsdesk
15 Multitrack 2
45 Sports Roundup
1300 World News
09 Twenty-Four Hours: News Summary
30 Weather UK
45 7th/21st Jazz Scene UK 14th and 23rd Folk in Britain
1400 Outlook, opening with 5-Minute News
45 Write On ... (ex 28th Outlook cont'd.)
1500 Radio Newsdesk
30 Great Love Duets
40 Our Farming World
0700 World News
15 News
45 The World Today

Job Opportunities

Suitable candidates are invited to apply for the following vacancies:

- 1) Diesel Mechanics:
For construction heavy equipments such as tractors, cranes, concrete pump batching plants, compressors, steam boilers, etc.
2) Petrol Engine Mechanics:
3) Mechanics for Refrigeration and Industrial Compressors:
Having good knowledge of cooling compressors, chillers and condensers with its control devices.
4) A/C Electricians:
With good experience in control panels, automatic control switches and electrical circuits.
5) Hydraulic Mechanics:
Having knowledge of lifting jacks and industrial hydraulic equipments.
6) Driver:
Experience:
Minimum 7 years for all posts with transferable residence permit.
Age: Less than 45 years.
Candidates are requested to apply to the following address:
Equipment Co. W.L.L.
Post Box No 192
13002 — Safat — Kuwait
Tel. 4841455

<p

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

EXCELLENT things are rare — Plato, Greek philosopher (about 427 BC—347 BC).

Soviets beef up Afghan positions

By Earleen Fisher

KABUL, (AP): A Soviet convoy lumbered out of Kabul shortly after daybreak Saturday on the road to Lowgar province, where Muslim rebel attacks have increased following the Geneva agreement on a Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan.

Residents and Western diplomats in the Afghan capital say the movements appeared aimed at resupplying existing Soviet positions nearest Kabul and the vulnerable Afghan Army.

There is little sign in Kabul that Moscow's troops are leaving the country they entered more than eight years ago to prop up a Soviet-backed government.

Foreign analysts in Kabul say this does not indicate the Soviets will not start the withdrawal on May 15 as scheduled. Instead, they say the Soviets apparently anticipate increased rebel attacks in areas that will be the last to be vacated.

Soviet watchposts on the road encircling Kabul show recent fortification. Fresh concrete and stonework surround Soviet sentry posts. Bunkers are draped with camouflage netting that two Western diplomats said was not there two weeks ago.

Pullout

Kabul is expected to be one of the last two cities the Soviets leave before the Feb 15, 1989, deadline for final pullout. The other is Mazar-e-Sharif, 65 kilometres (40 miles) south of the Soviet border.

Kabul, hub of Soviet operations, is 290 kilometres (180 miles) south of the border, but the towering, snow-capped Hindu Kush Mountains lie in between.

Mazar-e-Sharif is a dusty and seemingly placid town on the plain along the Oxus River that forms the international boundary.

The Soviet presence in Mazar-e-Sharif was apparent during a tightly supervised 7-1/2 hour visit arranged by the Afghan government on Friday.

Soviet Army fuel trucks were parked near 20 Afghan Air Force MiG-21 fighter planes at the airport and storefronts carried Cyrillic lettering. A dozen Soviet soldiers were sighted, including those in a tank that chugged up to a chemical plant a few kilometres (miles) west of town.

Western diplomats and Afghan officials speaking on condition of anonymity, said the

Zimbabwe marches on

Eight years of growing pains

By Ian Mills

HARARE, Zimbabwe, (UPI): Zimbabwe turned 8 years old recently with celebrations for its years of independence but worries about economic problems and runaway unemployment.

President Robert Mugabe has all but eliminated party rivalry by merging his ruling Zanu-PF with the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union, called Zapa, led by former opposition leader Joshua Nkomo.

Mugabe and Nkomo signed a unity pact Dec 22 agreeing to merge their two parties and end more than 20 years of bitter rivalry. Mugabe promptly gave Nkomo and other Zapa leaders cabinet posts.

Party supporters from both sides have unanimously endorsed the unity agreement, paving the way for Mugabe to achieve his coveted goal of turning the country into a one-party state.

One major issue remains to be resolved — the lineup of the new joint party's central committee and the all-powerful politburo.

Mugabe has been given the task of forming these two bodies from representatives of both parties but has not given the ratios, a decision vital to the success of the merger.

Problems

Yet even amid these problems and celebrations of eight years of independence, increasing economic problems loom ever more strongly. They will not really be eased by the party-political accord.

Government spokesmen and economic experts alike point increasingly to economic stumbles and steeply rising unem-

pout probably will start in the Soviets' most exposed positions, including bases nearest the Pakistani border.

The alliance of seven Muslim guerrilla groups, whose headquarters are across the easily penetrable Afghan-Pakistani frontier, rejected the April 14 Geneva pact because it does not guarantee a cutoff of Soviet aid to President Najib's government.

Officials in Washington said the United States will not halt its arms supply to the guerrillas until the Soviets stop supplying Najib's troops.

Guerrilla activities, including bombings in Kabul, have increased since February with the approach of spring and the melting of snow in the Hindu Kush and other mountain ranges.

According to the report compiled by Western diplomats, 22 bombs exploded in the capital in March, compared with 10 in February. The bombs included magnetic ones with timing devices that can be attached to vehicles, one diplomat said.

Other guerrilla activities in recent weeks include cutting or severely limiting movement on roads linking Kabul with other major cities, the diplomat said.

The diplomat said the rebels cut the road to Ghazni, 120 kilometres (75 miles) southwest of Kabul on April 14. A reporter who flew over the road a week later saw only a dozen vehicles on a normally well-travelled area of the road.

Lowgar province, which abuts the Kabul-Ghazni road, is "very insecure," a Western source said.

Fortified

The Soviet convoy of more than 200 trucks and armoured vehicles that headed to Lowgar on Saturday were fortified against possible attack.

Many of the trucks had metal plates that covered the lower half of the windshield on the driver's side and left only a brick-sized aperture on the passenger's side. The drivers, most of whom appeared to be in their teens or early twenties, wore helmets and flak jackets.

Interspersed in the convoy were trucks mounted with anti-aircraft guns. Since the guerrillas do not have aircraft, the guns' only use would be against targets on the ground — presumably guerrillas enclaved in the mountains.

Western diplomats and Afghan officials speaking on condition of anonymity, said the

Zimbabwe marches on

Eight years of growing pains

By Ian Mills

HARARE, Zimbabwe, (UPI): Zimbabwe turned 8 years old recently with celebrations for its years of independence but worries about economic problems and runaway unemployment.

President Robert Mugabe has all but eliminated party rivalry by merging his ruling Zanu-PF with the Zimbabwe African Peoples Union, called Zapa, led by former opposition leader Joshua Nkomo.

Mugabe and Nkomo signed a unity pact Dec 22 agreeing to merge their two parties and end more than 20 years of bitter rivalry. Mugabe promptly gave Nkomo and other Zapa leaders cabinet posts.

Party supporters from both sides have unanimously endorsed the unity agreement, paving the way for Mugabe to achieve his coveted goal of turning the country into a one-party state.

One major issue remains to be resolved — the lineup of the new joint party's central committee and the all-powerful politburo.

Mugabe has been given the task of forming these two bodies from representatives of both parties but has not given the ratios, a decision vital to the success of the merger.

Problems

Yet even amid these problems and celebrations of eight years of independence, increasing economic problems loom ever more strongly. They will not really be eased by the party-political accord.

Government spokesmen and economic experts alike point increasingly to economic stumbles and steeply rising unem-

Opportunist Air-India

SIR: It's a pity to read that Air-India is stopping discounts on tickets during the peak season. I strongly feel that this is a tactic AI is using with passengers because Kuwait Airways is facing a difficult time due to the recent hijacking.

To ensure passengers' safety, Kuwait Airways earlier this month suspended flights to the eastern sector to study security problems. Instead of cooperating with Kuwait Airways, AI is using the situation for its own benefit.

Air-India said if any passengers hold tickets purchased earlier and want to travel on or after May 1, then their tickets have to be re-issued. I don't understand according to which regulation of IATA a ticket is invalid.

The tickets issued before and after April 20 will show the regular IATA published fare. So where is the difference? If a passenger benefits by purchasing a ticket at the right time why should Air-India object?

Moreover, it is the discount that is changing and not the fare.

It is our sincere hope that AI will reconsider its decision before the passengers consider flying other airlines.

M. Qamruddin,
Khaldiya

Blackmailing passengers

SIR: This refers to the AT report about the sudden hike in Air-India fares.

Those who bought AI tickets did so not because of the comforts of AI flights but because of the discounts.

If AI wishes to blackmail or exploit Indians, due to a temporary suspension of KAC flights, we know how to retaliate. When the AI office was contacted, they said the airline is running at a loss. But the Gulf sector is the most lucrative for the airline. If AI goes ahead with the hike, we'll find other ways to travel.

AI officials have said that passengers even with okayed tickets would be stopped at the airport if the difference has not been paid. An air ticket is a contract between the carrier and the passenger. Once a contract is signed, how can AI revoke it?

Now that KAC has resumed

flights to Asia, let us travel by Kuwait Airways.

We request the Civil Aviation Authority in Kuwait and the AI management in India to clarify the dramatic change in policy.

An Indian passenger,
Safat.

Fleecing Gulf Indians

SIR: The decision by Air India to dishonour their own tickets amounts to opportunism. Although it is well-known that AI is not dependable, it was due to patriotism that most Indians used to fly in their planes.

The excuse the AI officials give is loss of revenue. The loss of revenue is not due to Indians in the Gulf, but due to its staff and crew who specialize in smuggling.

Not a single week passes without news in the Indian newspapers about AI crew caught smuggling drugs, gold, etc. Recently at an airport in Nigeria AI crew were caught, and consequently AI lost crores of rupees due to the grounding of their aircraft.

Gulf routes earn money for AI, and still it squeezes more and more from us. Although we always supported AI, it always showed apathy towards Indians.

So let all Indians decide unanimously to boycott Air-India. There are other airlines flying to Bombay and other Indian destinations.

A non-resident Indian,
Kuwait.

Making a quick buck

SIR: Air-India's approach to fares appears to resemble the proverbial Indian taxi meter that is perfectly calibrated to exploit the opportunities available. It works low-key around the Atlantic under the auspices of the FAA and gets into high gear when it feels it rules the sky.

The haste with which the national carrier of socialist parentage moved in to mop up the dimens, using the void of Kuwait Airways' temporary withdrawal suggests "that making a quick buck" and national interest are inseparable.

One wonders if the airline could use some of that drive to elevate itself from the dubious distinction of being placed

amongst the ten lowest rated airlines in the recent LAPA survey.

We hope, for the extra bucks that we pay we shall get the same designer baggage tags that Air India's managing director Jetley ordered for his "boss."

Subir K. Ray,
Safat.

Local conspiracy

SIR: Air India cracked a big joke by announcing full IATA rates for their tickets while other airlines still continue to give discounts.

It is a pity that Air India is the first one to exploit the Indians while feasibility studies on imposing IATA charges are in progress. Discontinuing discounts is certainly a local conspiracy rather than a general policy of the Aviation Ministry of India.

The full IATA charge has increased the cost of tickets for different destinations by 30 to 50 per cent. This increase is definitely an exploitation of the average expatriates who do not get any travel facilities from the institute they work for.

"The strike while the iron is hot" policy of AI during the summer vacation could only provoke the passengers to boycott.

Thomas Cherian,
Salmiya.

Exploitation

SIR: Air India exhibited cheap opportunism and flagrant exploitation by withdrawing the discount on fares to India at a time when Kuwait Airways temporarily suspended flights to the Far East.

At a time when maximum cooperation was expected of airlines to help ease the difficulties confronted by the passengers, AI Maharatna stooped low to cash in on the opportunity forgetting the ridiculous image such a move would project.

Gulf passengers have been and are always a gold mine to AI in shoring up its losses.

C.K. Satyara,
Safat.

Taking advantage

SIR: Is it a mere coincidence, exploitation or open blackmail that AI has raised the fare to

India at the time KAC suspended operation? It is a shame; a cheap way to take advantage of the situation. After all, the Gulf is the most lucrative sector — businesswise — for AI.

Would the Indians unite and fly by other airlines and would the AI management have any explanation?

Talib K. Javi,
Safat.

Prohibit drinking

SIR: Alcoholism has become a worldwide problem. India is no exception. The number of alcoholics is rising every day. The supply of liquor has risen considerably in India, even though a government directive says that there should be total prohibition in the country.

A few years ago a Maharashtra minister, who was under the influence of alcohol, misbehaved with an air hostess. The incident was made public, because he was a public figure. However, similar incidents occur frequently on the plane. Many people drink excessively and misbehave. Such incidents are not reported by newspapers because the people involved are not in the public eye.

The full IATA charge has increased the cost of tickets for different destinations by 30 to 50 per cent. This increase is definitely an exploitation of the average expatriates who do not get any travel facilities from the institute they work for.

"The strike while the iron is hot" policy of AI during the summer vacation could only provoke the passengers to boycott.

Thomas Cherian,
Salmiya.

Uncomfortable school buses

SIR: I have noticed that school transport operators in order to grab more money put too many students in the buses than their actual capacity. Consequently some stronger children, in order to get seats, in the bus, fight and push one another, resulting in small children losing their seats.

Long journeys make the children physically and emotionally weak. When children reach the school after one to 1-1/2 hours of exhausting travelling, they are unable to concentrate

on their studies.

The principals of schools should realize this fact and take immediate steps to stop such practices. Transport operators' contracts should incorporate strict conditions. If the buses are not sufficiently supplied by the people, such contracts should be cancelled.

Buses should not take more children than their actual seating capacity. Since all children have to carry their school bags, it is quite essential that they should be given comfortable seats while travelling.

Since small children are prone to getting exhausted, they should be driven in air-conditioned buses. I am sure parents will accept a reasonable increase in transport fees, if the transport system is improved.

John Mathew,
Safat.

Appeal for peace

SIR: The hijack drama has finally ended. Also over is the suffering of innocent hostages after 16 long days. The former hostages deserve praise for their patience during those tortuous hours when they struggled with life and death.

Thanks to the leadership of Kuwait, the innocent men and women were safely released, except for the tragic death of two victims.

In this holy month of Ramadan, I appeal to all peace-loving people, world leaders and the UN to resolve the 7-1/2-year-old conflict between Iraq and Iran. They must try and resolve the Lebanese dispute and settle the Palestinian problem. Only peace will spare the innocent from facing further hijacking, missiles, crimes and dire poverty.

P. Menezes,
Safat.

Tighten security

SIR: I condemn the hijacking of the Kuwaiti jetliner and share the jubilation of the former hostages on their release.

Security check-up in Bangkok was apparently lax which helped the hijackers to smuggle in weapons.

There should be a thorough security check-up at all airports to foil any attempt to smuggle weapons into an aircraft. The

safety of passengers is imperative.

Modern hijackers have become sophisticated and the existing aviation rules do not deter them. The current 1963 Tokyo Convention and 1970 Hague Convention rules must be immediately amended to deal firmly with the hijackers before more corpses are thrown on the tarmac.

T. Philip,
Kuwait.

HUMOUR



IT all started with the toothpaste really. Don't get me wrong, my wife is a wonderful wife, 99.9 per cent perfect. It's just that 0.1 per cent that makes me a teensy-weensy little tiny bit sheer bloody homicidal. The woman is incapable of squeezing a toothpaste tube properly!

It may not seem much in the scale of human crime and folly, but at 7.00 am when your teeth itch and your mouth feels like one of those fluffy pink nylon slippers, it's enough to start a fire fight. You see, I hesitate to be disloyal by mentioning it, but the plain fact is the woman squeezes the toothpaste from the middle!

There! Now you see how I suffer! Now you can imagine my anguish! There I am in the grey light of dawn while the sparrows are still coughing the dust out of their lungs, my mouth feels like a second-hand model whose previous owner chewed ratskins, and all the toothpaste is down the bottom of the tube and the middle is all squashed flat. Soon as I start squeezing from the bottom, in accordance with all known principles of human justice, dignity and civilisation, the damn thing splits open and there's a minty white worm all over my beard.

Indignant

Now it's a little hard to be properly indignant when you've got Signal red stripe toothpaste hanging from your chin like Xmas decorations, but I do try to. I reason with her.

"Why the !**+ + @%! can't you squeeze the toothpaste properly?"

I enquire.

"It's your fault, you don't do enough housework!"

"What? Who? Me? You're accusing me of not doing enough housework. Who was it that did all the washing up, hoovered the entire flat and scrubbed the floor?"

"It's not enough to wash the dishes one year, scrub the floor the next and hoover the flat every leap year," she says, adding, "And you can clean that up as well!" pointing to the slimy trail of red and white strip toothpaste that has followed me from the bathroom.

I threw in the towel, the

The big squeeze

By Keith Wells

toothbrush, the toothpaste and the face flannel. But I wasn't beaten. I decided the sneaky thing to do would be to do all the housework, show her how easy it was, then gradually try to give her a course of higher education in the proper squeezing of tubes.

That afternoon she had to go gossiping, so as soon as she left, I got out all the tools of the trade. Brushes, mops, sponges, buckets cleansers with names like Blitz and Whammo and finally the vacuum cleaner. It seemed wisest to vacuum first, so I unravelled the cable, fitted the long nozzle thing and set to work. The first problem was my driving licence... no, you don't need one to drive a vacuum cleaner, I know that! But the vacuum cleaner decided it needed one anyway. I was just vacuuming my desk when Ssh-

Off switch, but it started sucking my throat like an electric vampire.

Just before my adam's apple followed eve's eyeshadow down the hoover's gullet, I got one hand free and hit all the buttons, and kicked the plug out. The vacuum cleaner died with a low moan, but then its tail came to life, whipping the plug from the wall, snaking the cable round and round my legs and vanishing into a little hole at the back, leaving me tied to the machine like a turkey trussed by a dyslectic.

It took ages to sort out the mess. I opened its bowels, sifted through the intestines for jewellery and make-up. I think I got it all, but one of the eyelashes kept wriggling, which puzzled me until I realised it was a cockroach.

I hoped it was a female one, wearing all that lip-

head, I jiggled out of the way in panic, still squeezing the green stuff, and next thing I knew there was a waterfall of hot water pouring down into a lake of foam around my knees.

Resurrected

The drain immediately joined sides with the toothpaste tube, the vacuum cleaner and the water boiler, and clogged. Little bits of things I had hoped had gone forever from this world, were resurrected and came floating into the daylight on a tide of greenish foam. I remembered very clearly and precisely exactly why I never did the housework. It requires too much brains. I'm not fit enough. I don't have the necessary to cope. What's wrong with squalor anyway?

I debated whether to make a run for it before the wife came back, stroll in a few hours later and be very sympathetic but I decided the scum line of foaming bubbles, eyeshadow and floating things around the knees of my trousers would probably give the game away.

I wanted to make a clean breast of the whole thing, but cleanliness had got me into the whole mess in the first place. Switch off hot water supply, get part revenge by poking vacuum cleaner head first down disgusting drain to unclog it, smash eyelash to pulp before I realise it's not a cockroach, then see real cockroach, wearing Yves St Laurent lipgloss on its bottom, mincing along draining board in front of antennae-waving admirers.

At last, vacuum cleaner unclogs drain, bubbly green water slowly subsides leaving scummy stuff all over bottom of cupboards, gas stove and fridge, like open air banquet for cockroaches in drag.

Wife comes back and asks questions, but too busy putting buckets under burst water tap, wiping off scummy tickmark and tying good tight knot in vacuum cleaner's windpipe, to bother with answers. But I made a peace offering, after she discovered the massacre, I went straight out and bought her a brand new tube of toothpaste, and hang the expense.

Let her squeeze it anyway she wants.

'I remembered very clearly and precisely exactly why I never did the housework. It requires too much brains. I'm not fit enough. I don't have the necessary to cope. What's wrong with squalor anyway?'

stick, you know how gossip spreads!

Anyway, I finally found my driving licence, complete with smears of exotic Parisian unguents, threw the rest of her stuff back on the dressing table, pulled the vacuum cleaner's neck off and slung the body back in the broom cupboard.

I decided I'd better do the washing up as a sort of consolation prize. Washing up's easy, you just turn on the hot water, squirt the green stuff all over the planes and sluice, right?

Have you ever noticed how Reality has this sneaky way of turning you on, just when you think you've got it taped? Why should the hot water boiler burst at that exact moment? At least it didn't explode, but the effect was much the same, suddenly the sky seemed to be pouring hot rain all over my head.

Let her squeeze it anyway she wants.

The Art Buchwald Column

The truth, the whole truth

The premier speaks into the mikes, "We had sharp exchanges but now we can move forward." ("The secretary wants peace and he wants the Russians at the table. How can he have both? The trouble with the American is he plays too much tennis and the sun gets to his head.")

"I want to say," the secretary of state declares, "the areas of agreement are far greater than those of disagreement. I have gotten to know the premier better and that was worth my entire trip." ("If I had seen how little I was going to get out of all this I would have brought De Tocqueville with me and stayed in the hotel.")

The premier is next. "Two great nations can agree to disagree, but this should not stop them from supplying each other with helicopters." ("Not only is the American secretary of state wrong on everything — he is also boring."

THE only thing you see when world leaders meet is their exit. The only things you hear are pallid declarations as the leaders face the microphones.

"We had a very fruitful exchange which will eventually lead to mutual understanding," he pretends.

The US secretary of state then speaks. "The discussions were frank and open and we hope someday they will produce positive results for the entire region."

Diplomacy demands the two people make such statements. But you have to read between the lines to get the real meaning.

This is what the premier really wished to say when he described the talks as fruitful. "When the secretary of state tried to blackmail me by threatening to cut off ground-to-air missile deliveries, I had no choice but to throw the fruit bowl at him."

While the secretary of state really wanted to say, "What can you expect from a man who has devoted his entire life to being short?"

And so it goes. Here is the dialogue — and what the leaders were really thinking:



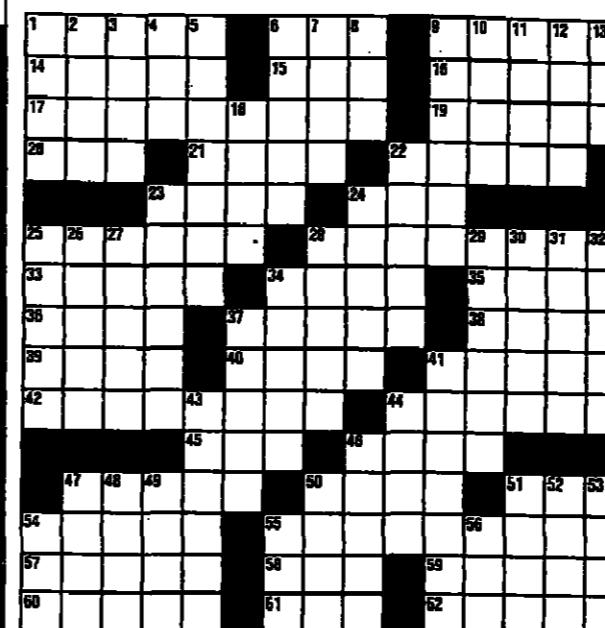
need the new F-16s I would have spilled water all over his pants."

The secretary of state always bites his tongue so he won't hurt. "The premier is stubborn and obstinate and doesn't know up from down. All he wants is war, and if he keeps doing what he's going he's going to get one. Not only do I disagree with him diplomatically, I don't even like him as a person."

The premier looks at the microphones and declares, "We are now going to have a friendly lunch." But what he says to himself is, "Inviting him to lunch was a mistake. He'll continue to talk and I will just give me another headache."

1988, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 1 Afternoon
- 2 TV fare
- 6 Luau specialty
- 9 Lay aside
- 14 Key
- 15 Emmet
- 16 Dickens' Heep
- 17 — officials
- 19 Exudes fumes
- 20 Grad. degrees
- 21 Matures
- 22 Kind of drum
- 23 Regimen
- 24 Rene's affirmative
- 25 "Wiping something off —": Kipling
- 28 Solanum melongena
- 33 Comes into view
- 35 Cosmetic plant
- 36 Old French coins
- 37 Gibe
- 38 Actress Louise
- 39 Quote
- 40 Brinks
- 41 Sunder
- 42 Brassica oleracea
- 44 Map sections
- 45 Cuckoo
- 46 Tense
- 47 Justice Hugo
- 50 Lay an egg
- 51 New Zealand

DOWN

- 54 Vestige
- 55 Phaeolus limensis
- 57 Duck
- 58 Munched
- 59 Mystery's Gardner et al.
- 60 Exigencies
- 61 NBA's Unseld
- 62 Dodger of old
- 63 Excuse of a sort
- 67 Candid
- 41 One who treats with disdain
- 43 Andretti and Unser
- 44 — Pirate King..."; Gilbert & Sullivan
- 45 Large books
- 47 Cheese from France
- 48 Burden
- 49 Served a winner
- 50 Nip
- 51 Brassica oleracea acaphila
- 52 Chemical suffixes
- 53 African fox
- 54 Top rating, for some
- 55 Regulation
- 56 Sooner than
- 57
- 58
- 59
- 60
- 61
- 62

East-West deals.

NORTH
▲ 5 3
▼ A J 8 6 3
♦ K 10 4
♣ K 5 2

WEST
▲ 8
▼ K 5 4
♦ 7 6 3 2
♣ Void

EAST
▲ 7 6 2
▼ Q 10 9 7 2
♦ Void

SOUTH
▲ K O J 10 9 4
▼ Void
♦ A Q J 9 8 5
♣ 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♢ Pass
3 ♡ Pass 3 NT Pass
4 ♦ Pass 4 ♣ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Eight of ♠
There is a vast difference between the various forms of tournament bridge. In pair events, each board is a mini-tournament of its own, where every trick counts. Team matches are more like rubber bridge, where the safety of the contract is paramount. How would you play this hand from the recent Bermuda Regional, held at the Southampton Princess?

You have reached a nearly iron-clad contract of four spades. When partner responded in your void and then took a simple preference, you elected not to look beyond four spades. West leads a trump, which

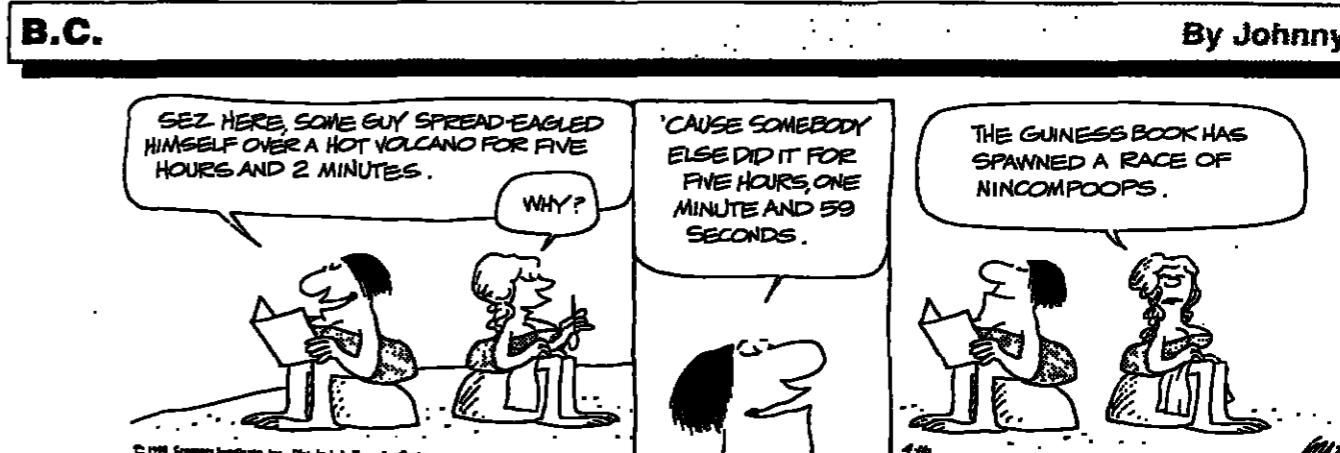
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:
MARSH HAGS SAFE
ALATE OLLA PULL
NOVEL ROOT ITEM
WEEPING WILLOW
PEAS WAIR
ASTER DOTTEREL
MAINS GORE DELE
ELL DORMS AGE
EVER ELIS CEDAR
ROSEBEDS ELMERS
SERF ATOP
LAUGHING HYENA
PURPLE ENON IRENE
UNIT ACNE NORNS
GADS DHOW GROAT

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart

THE WIZARD OF ID



By Johnny Hart



'CAUSE SOMEBODY ELSE DID IT FOR FIVE HOURS, ONE MINUTE AND 59 SECONDS.'

'THE GUINNESS BOOK HAS SPANNED A RACE OF NINCOMPOOPS.'

YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

You will find it hard to choose between two virtually equally attractive alternatives. Think hard, do not just toss a coin. Do not allow anything to come between you and your partner. Be moderate.



Cancer (June 21 - July 22)

Circumstances are favourable to you, only you should not expect something for nothing. You must beware of doing anything that would cause confusion. Make sure you are on time for an appointment. Be tactful.



Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

Something you have rather doubted will become more definite. You should allow commonsense to be your guide. You should try not to take offence quite so easily. Be less obstinate.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You will have to deal with a certain amount of bad feeling on the part of your partner. Do take it in good humour; he does not really mean it. Avoid eating or drinking to excess. Be generous.



Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

Your personal charm will be at its height and will help you to deal with the situation. You will be able to increase your prestige. You must make quite sure you observe the rules of the road. Be more tolerant.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should not be too demanding — ask for a little less and you will get it. You are liable to get into a rut — do your best not to. Give your sense of humour an airing. Be considerate.



Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

You should not try to use force just now. The moon's influence is less favourable and you will tend to be excessively critical. Do not spend more than you are able to without getting into debt. Be objective.



Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

You will be able to do what has to be done to meet your commitments. You will find the solution to a problem that has been bothering you. You should do your utmost not to lose your temper. Be considerate.



Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

This is going to be a tiring day so

make sure you do not waste your energies on pointless pursuits. You will find a way of simplifying what you intend to do. Do not permit yourself to be invaded by doubts. Be magnanimous.

You should attend to what is really important and leave secondary matters for latter. You will be able to take the initiative but make sure you know where you are going. Do not lose touch with a friend who has moved. Be reasonable.

ISTOP: STOP

Dear Junior Readers,

Safety while riding a school bus is not only the responsibility of the driver, but the student's as well.

If you are seated properly, facing the front of the bus, the driver will find it easier to watch traffic through the front window or rear-view mirrors. If he is able to see clearly, you and your classmates will have a safer ride to and from school.

If you speak softly to friends seated near you and refrain from shouting, then, the driver will be able to hear if another driver needs his attention and honks his horn or if an emergency vehicle is coming.

Safety on the bus is your business as well as the driver's. Remember bus safety rules and protect your life.

Aunt Barbara

Happy birthday

Juliana Jansen celebrates her third birthday Thursday, April 28. Best wishes, Juliana, from your family and friends.



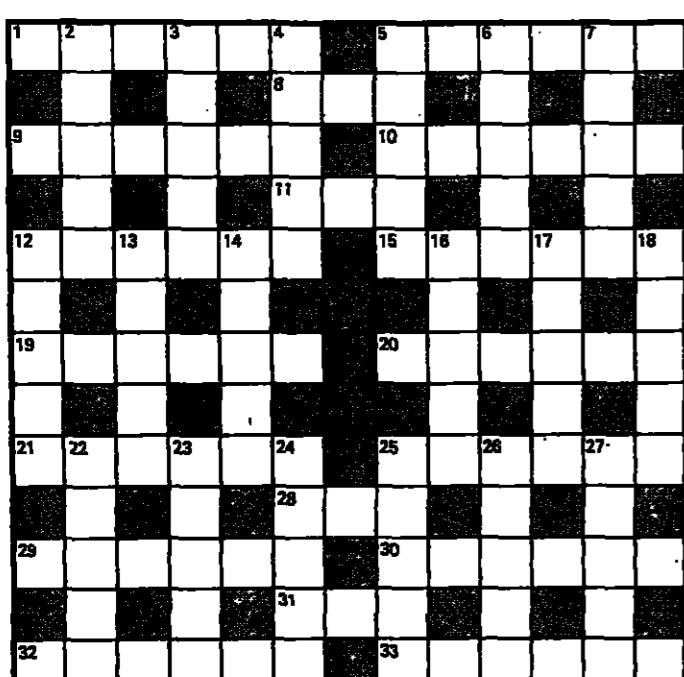
Doctor, doctor

*Doctor, doctor, my aunt has a sore throat.
Give her this bottle of auntie-septic.*

*Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I'm a Swiss roll and custard.
No wonder you're a trifle unwell.*

*Doctor, doctor, my husband thinks he's a car.
Show him in at once.
I can't - he's double parked.*

Crossword fun

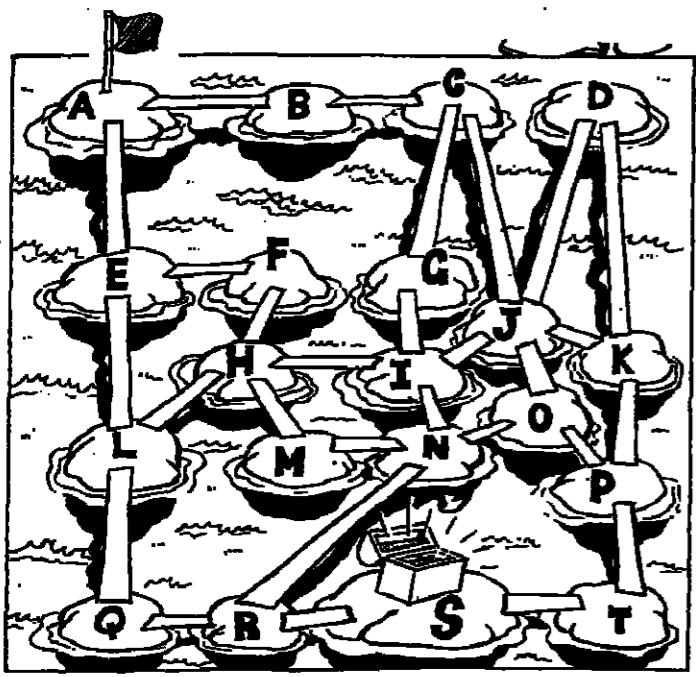


ACROSS
1 Goal (6)
5 Pullover (8)
8 Highest or lowest card (3)
9 In words (6)
10 Beat (6)
11 Untruth (3)
12 Hard, metallic (6)
15 Food cupboard (6)
19 White-skinned animal or person (6)
20 In the course of (6)
21 Roll back (6)
25 Choose (6)
28 Humour (3)
29 Mix (6)
30 Improvement (6)
31 Top (3)
32 Edible pulse (6)
33 Strong-smelling wild flower (6)

DOWN
2 Warning (5)
3 Roof end (5)
4 Match up (5)
5 Gem (5)
6 Type of tooth (5)
7 Bring to mind (5)
11 Step (5)
13 Arm joint (5)
14 Flaxen cloth (5)
16 Entertain (5)
17 Compel (5)
18 Correct (5)
22 Period away from home (5)
23 Gold bar (5)
24 Live (5)
25 Read (5)
26 Not now! (5)
27 Piece of bric-a-brac (5)

Island hopping

Which is the shortest route from island A to S, crossing an even number of bridges?



ONCE there was a fisherman, who lived with his wife in a hovel close by the sea. Each day he went down to the water and fished, and so it had been going for a long time.

One day as he sat fishing and gazing into the clear water, watching his line, it suddenly sank deep under. When he reeled it up, there was a big flounder at the end of it. The flounder said to him, "I bid you let me live, for I am not really a flounder, but an enchanted

prince. Set me back into the water and let me swim away."

"Well," said the fisherman, "no need for so many words. Any flounder that talks, I'm glad to let swim."

Then he set the flounder back into the water and the flounder swam straight down to the ocean bed, leaving a red streak of

blood behind him.

The man went home to his wife and told her that he had caught a flounder that said it was an enchanted prince and so he had put it back into the water.

"And you didn't wish for anything?" said his wife.

"No," said the fisherman. "What should I have wished for?"

"Oh," said his wife, "it's so nasty to have to live in this pig sty forever. It's smelly and dirty. Go back and wish us a nice little cottage."

"Mandje! Mandje! Timpe Tel!

*Flounder, flounder, in the sea!
My wife, whose name is Isebill,
Will not have things as I will.*

The flounder came swimming up and said, "Well, then, what does she want?"

"Oh," said the fisherman, "my wife says since I caught you, I should have wished for something. She doesn't want to live in a pig sty any longer. She wants a little cottage."

"Go home," said the flounder, "and you'll find her in it."

So the man went home and there was his wife standing in the doorway of a cottage. "Come on in," she said. "Now, isn't this much better?"

"Oh," said the man, "now we can live here and be content."

"Yes," said the wife,

"we will try."

And so everything went well for a week or two, and then the wife said, "Husband! There's not enough room in this cottage. The yard and garden are too small. I want to live in a big stone castle. Go to the flounder and tell him to give us a castle."

"But, Wife," said the fisherman, "the flounder has just given us this cottage. I don't like the idea of going to him again. He may get annoyed."

"Well, I want it," said the wife. "He can do it, and he'll do it willingly. Go on, now."

The fisherman went to the sea, but his heart was heavy. The water had turned violet and gray and dark blue, though it was still calm. He stood at the water's edge and said:

"Mandje! Mandje! Timpe Tel!

*Flounder, flounder, in the sea!
My wife, whose name is Isebill,
Will not have things as I will.*

"Well, then, what does she want?" said the flounder.

"Oh," said the man quite unhappily, "my wife wants a stone castle to live in."

"Go home, and you'll find her standing in front of the door," said the flounder.

The man went home and there stood his wife in front of a great castle.

"Look, Husband," she

said, "isn't it beautiful?"

"Oh," said the man, "we will remain in this beautiful palace and be contented."

"We'll think about that," said his wife. "We'll sleep on it." And they went to bed.

The following morning the wife awoke at dawn. She poked her husband in the side with her elbow and said, "Husband, get up. We want to be king over all this land."

"Oh, Wife," said the fisherman, "why should we be king?" I don't want to be king."

"Well then, I'll be king."

"Oh, Wife," said the man, "king of what? The flounder can't do that."

"Husband," said the wife, "go, at once. I want to be king."

And so the man went to the sea, but was most unhappy that his wife wanted to be king. As he came to the water, he saw that it was black-gray, with waves swirling up from below. He stood at the water's edge and said:

"Mandje! Mandje! Timpe Tel!

*Flounder, flounder, in the sea!
My wife, whose name is Isebill,
Will not have things as I will.*

"Well, what does she want?" said the flounder.

"Oh," said the fisherman, "my wife wants to be as the dear Lord is."

"Go home. She is," said the flounder.

"Now then," said the man, "are you king?"

"Yes," she said, "I am king."

After gazing at her for a while the fisherman said, "Well, Wife, now will you let it be? You're king, and we don't need to wish for anything more."

"No," said his wife, "I'm not satisfied. I can't stand it when I see the sun and the moon rise and know that I can't make them do it. I want to be as the dear Lord is."

"But, Wife," said the fisherman, "the flounder can't do that. He can make an emperor and a pope, but he can't do that."

"Husband," said she, "I want to be as the dear Lord is. Go at once to the flounder."

And she gave him such a wild look that the fisherman trembled with fear.

Outside the storm raged, bending trees and toppling boulders. The sky was black, and it thundered and lightened, and the dark waves of the sea rose into mountains crowned with white foam. The fisherman stood there and said:

"Mandje! Mandje! Timpe Tel!

*Flounder, flounder, in the sea!
My wife, whose name is Isebill,
Will not have things as I will.*

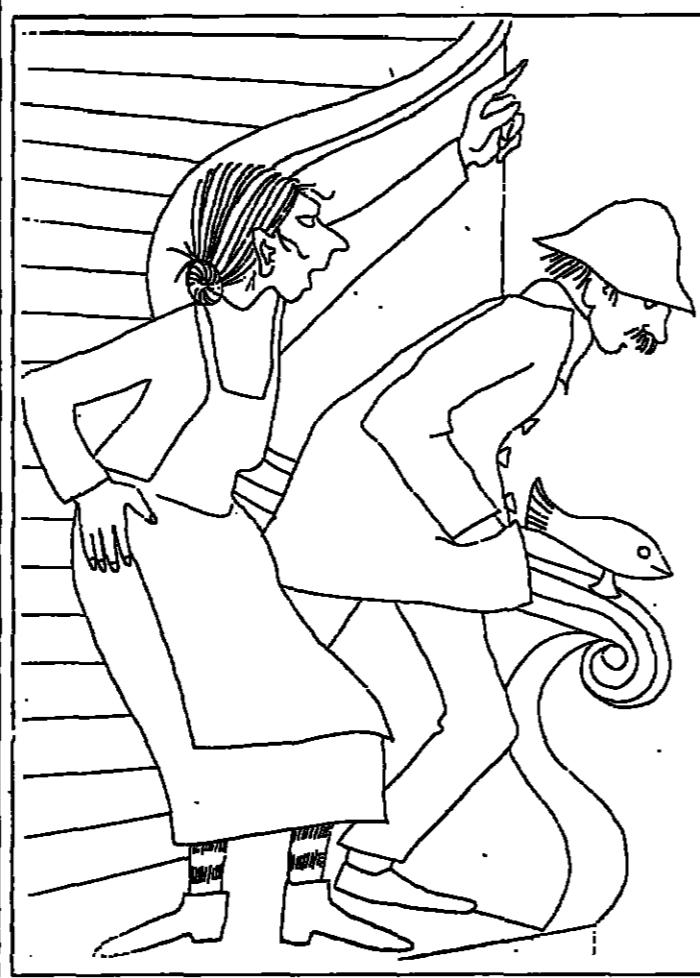
"Now, what does she want?" said the flounder.

"Oh," said the fisherman, "my wife wants to be as the dear Lord is."

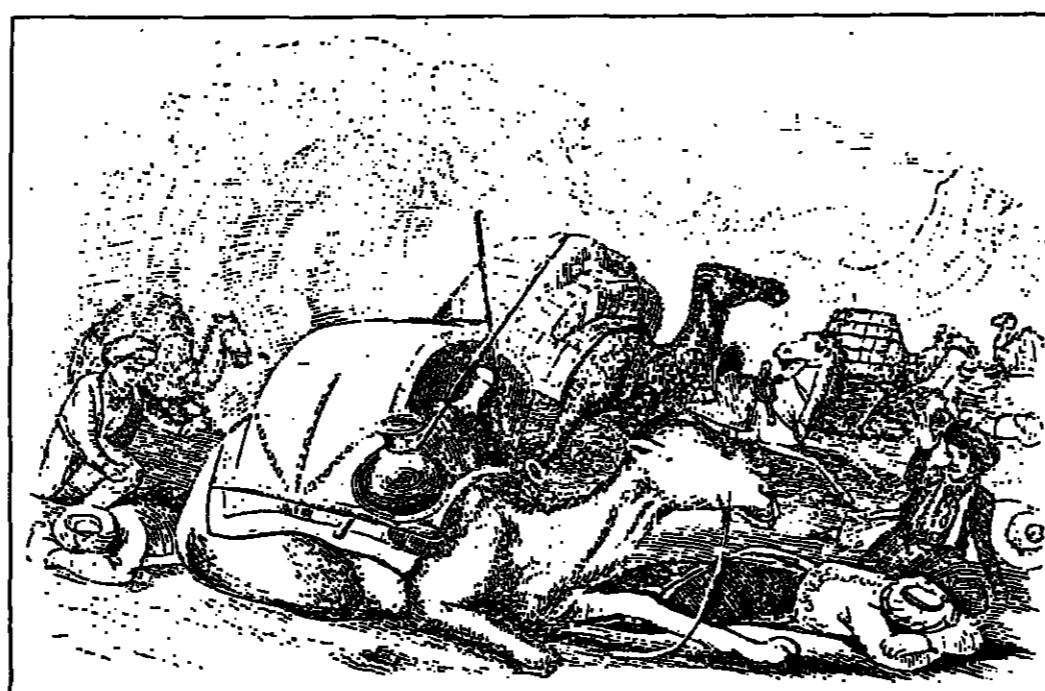
"Go home. You'll find her back in her pig sty."

And there they are to this day.

About a fisherman and his wife



Wonders of camels



HOW many humps does a camel have?

Be careful — there is no correct answer to this seemingly simple question. Some camels have two humps while others have but one. Moreover, certain members of the camelidae family (the alpacas, guanacos, llamas, and vicunas of South America) lack humps.

Zoologists — students of animal life — have named the single-humped camel *Camelus dromedarius*. Because this animal was probably first domesticated in ancient Arabia, it is commonly called the Arabian camel.

It is also known as the dromedary. However, it is incorrect to call all Arabian camels dromedaries. Technically, a dromedary is a special breed of one-humped camel trained to run at top speed while carrying a rider.

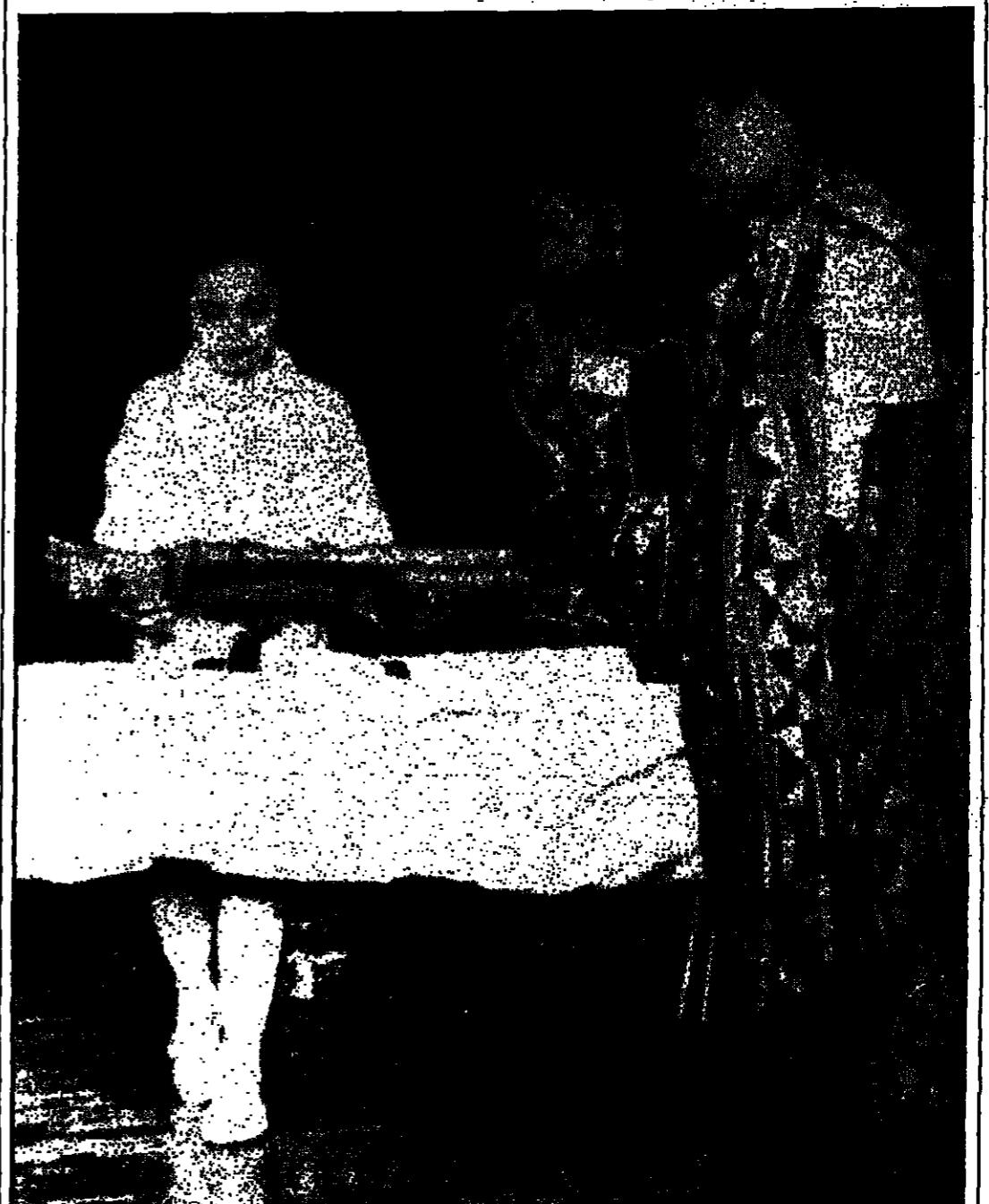
The double-humped camel's scientific name is *Camelus bactrianus*. It has also been

learned that the offspring of such matings are highly prized because they are heavier and more vigorous than either parent.

Today, most authorities consider Arabian and Bactrian camels geographic race of a single species. This is not only because the two interbreed but also because, with the exception of the Bactrian's slightly shorter leg bones, their skeletons are so similar that experts examining fossilized camel bones from areas where both races once lived are unable to tell whether the bones are those of a one- or two-humped camel.

Because of the dissimilarity in the appearance of Arabian and Bactrian camels, early scientists could justify classifying them as two distinct species. But the difference in humps is more apparent than real. Anatomists have discovered that the Arabian camel has an imperfectly developed anterior hump.

Children seek peace



A young girl discards a toy gun during World Children's Day at the United Nations on Sunday. Several hundred children from around the world took part in the day dedicated to peace. (Reuter wirephoto)

Where to find teak

Teak is wood obtained from a type of tree known as *Tectona*. It is one of the most valuable woods because it is extremely hard and durable and can withstand the attacks of insects which bore holes into other kinds of wood and spoil them. The strength of teak comes from an essential oil present in the wood.

Tectona trees grow only in the dense forests of equatorial regions. It is difficult to transport the trees from these forests and for this reason teak is very expensive.

Burma produces most of the world's supply of teak, with India, Thailand, Java

Asia

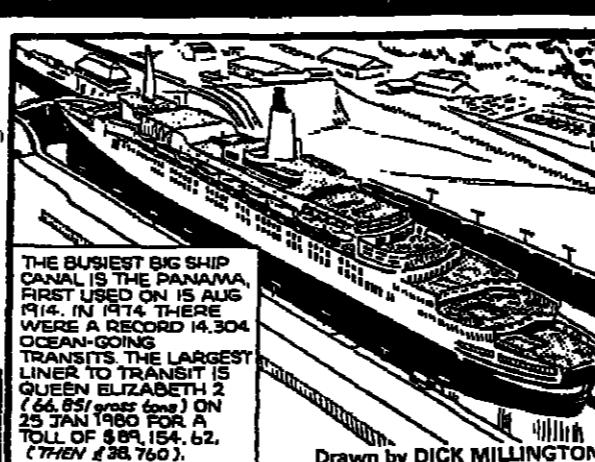
and Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon) coming next.

Teak trees grow to an average height of 20 metres, although mature trees of 100 years old or more can reach 30 to 40 metres. The bark of the tree is about a centimetre thick and is brownish grey in colour. The sapwood is white and beneath this is the heartwood which has a strong aromatic fragrance and is a golden brown colour, which on seasoning darkens to brown marked with darker streaks.

In warm countries teak is chiefly valued for its durability. Well-preserved teak beams have been found in buildings several centuries old and there are instances of teak beams having lasted for more than 1,000 years.

Teak is used in building ships and houses and also for fine furniture and wood carvings. A great deal of teak is shaved into very thin slices, called veneers, which are stuck to furniture made from other, cheaper woods. It was once used to make the decks of sailing ships because it did not rot as easily as other woods. Today it has become very popular in furniture-making but most of the woods sold as teak are really imitations that look like the original.

Factfile FROM THE GUINNESS BOOK OF RECORDS



THE BUSIEST BIG SHIP CANAL IS THE PANAMA, FIRST USED ON 15 AUG 1914. IN 1985 THERE WERE A RECORD 14,304 OCEAN-GOING TRANSITS TO AND FROM THE CANAL (12,000 40,000 GRT).

QUEEN ELIZABETH (76,636 GRT) ON 25 JAN 1980 FOR A DUR. OF 381,154.62 CYLBS 230,760.

Drawn by DICK MILLINGTON

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Joycilia

Offer a good beginning, says Lukman

Oil producers propose 5pc cut in exports

VIENNA, Austria, April 27. (AP) Seven independent oil-producing nations, seeking to help Opec boost oil prices, proposed late yesterday that both groups cut their exports by 5 per cent, Mexico's oil minister said.

Kilwanu Lukman, the Nigerian president of the 13-nation organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, called the offer "a good beginning."

Analysts said the proposal, if implemented, could reverse the recent decline in oil prices caused by excess supplies.

Positive

"If they agreed to it, it would be very positive," for the oil market, said Paul Mlotok, an analyst for the investment firm Salomon Brothers Inc., who was in Vienna to observe the oil talks.

The Mexican Oil Minister, Fernando Hiriart, told reporters that he had proposed the 5 per cent cut in oil exports on behalf of Mexico and the six other independent producers: Egypt, China, Colombia, Malaysia, Oman and Angola.

Speaking through an interpreter this morning, Hiriart said the 5 per cent cut by the non-Opec group would amount to about 200,000 barrels a day.

He said it was not clear exactly how the 5 per cent reduction for Opec would be expressed in actual barrels per day.

Hiriart said his government



Non-Opec producers Egypt, Malaysia, Oman, Mexico, Angola, China and Colombia started a meeting on cooperation to boost prices with Opec price monitoring committee members Algeria, Indonesia, Nigeria, Saudi Arabia and Venezuela. From left to right are Egyptian delegation led by Abdul Hadi Kandil and the Malaysian delegation led by Kasitah Gaddam. (Reuter wirephoto)

shares Opec's objective of driving prices back up to the organisation's official target of \$18 per barrel. Most Opec oil currently is selling for \$14 to \$15 a barrel.

He declined to say what Mexico or the other independent producers would do if Opec did

not agree to the export-reduction offer.

"We are ready to implement these measures when we find the adequate proportional response from Opec," he said, adding that this meant a "volume cut equivalent to 5 per cent of its

exports."

Opec exports about 14 million barrels of its collective oil production of between 17.5 million and 18 million barrels a day. Thus a 5 per cent cut would appear to mean an export loss of 700,000 barrels daily.

The non-Opec group was scheduled to meet again this afternoon with representatives of the six Opec countries for a final day of closed-door deliberations.

Arturo Hernandez Grisant, the Venezuelan Oil Minister, told reporters that the six Opec officials were not authorised to make any decisions on the non-Opec offer. He said details of the proposal would be passed on to a meeting of all 13 Opec countries in Vienna tomorrow.

Production

Open itself is sharply divided about whether it should reduce its oil production, although it has long welcomed the prospect of collaborative efforts by independent oil-producing nations.

If joint action were undertaken it would mark the first such accord with outside oil producers in Opec's 28-year history.

One of the main obstacles to an Opec agreement on reducing its oil output is the refusal of Iraq to cooperate. It is not party to an existing Opec production-limiting agreement because it was denied its demand for a production quota equal to that of Iran. The two nations have been at war since 1980.

Iraq is believed to be pumping at least 2.5 million barrels daily, more than any other Opec member except Saudi Arabia. Iran produces roughly 2 million barrels daily.

A further complication for Opec is Saudi Arabia's decision this week to sever diplomatic relations with Iran. Although this was not expected to stop the oil ministers of both countries from sitting together at the Opec negotiating table, it could cast a dark shadow over efforts to agree on organisation policy moves.

Talks

Regardless of the outcome of Opec's talks with the independent producers, members of both groups said the meetings were important for the long-term development of the world oil market.

"It is the beginning of a new stage of cooperation between a large number of oil-producing countries," Hiriart said. "It is hoped that other countries will join in the effort."

Earlier, the Venezuelan oil minister criticised what he called US government attacks on Opec's efforts to win cooperation from independent oil producers.

Hernandez referred to comments by US Energy Secretary John Harrington last week that talks such as those in Vienna were "doomed to failure."

"Opec is making efforts to stabilise the oil market, and this stability is in the interests of everybody, including consumers," he told reporters, adding that this was true "even in the case of the United States."

Austrian crude output steadily falling

VIENNA, April 27. (Opecda) Austria's domestic crude production is steadily decreasing, according to statistics released here.

Shell Austria's bi-monthly news journal "Erdöl" says in its latest issues that Austrian crude output has fallen from 2.80 million tonnes in 1970 to 1.06 million last year.

The national Austrian oil company, Oemv, produced 823,604 tonnes of that amount with rag (owned equally by Shell and Mobil) accounting for 207,273 tonnes and the Van Sickel Company the remaining 31,694 tonnes.

The report noted that the traditional eastern oilfields, which date back to the 1930s, accounted for 894,291 tonnes of crude while the central fields, which have been in operation since 1946, produced 168,280 tonnes.

In some cases this is done primarily through policies that raise prices to consumers by protecting the domestic market," the US department of Agriculture says in a recently published book on farm export policy.

"In other cases, assistance is provided through subsidies financed by the taxpayer," it says.

Products

The report, aimed at informing Americans seeking to export food products, tells of quotas, tariffs, surcharges, health and sanitary rules and other restrictions that plague exporters to more than 100 countries.

However, it makes no judgment on whether the obstacles are fair.

The report notes that wine can't be advertised in Norway and Sweden, where the governments want to hold down consumption of alcoholic beverages, and that margarine can't be advertised in France because the French dairy farmers from protection in butter sales.

Sacred

Egypt won't buy almonds, it says, because it's protecting its meager stock of foreign exchange. India won't buy tallow because the cows it is made from are sacred to Hindus.

And none of the 12 countries in the European Economic Community will buy foreign meat if it is mixed with soy protein, a restriction said to be aimed at protecting consumers.

There is no duty in Austria on imports of American rice, and Saudi Arabians apparently like American rice so much that rice from Thailand is packaged and sold there as if it came from the United States.

World Business Summary

US industrialist signs new joint venture pact

BEIJING, April 27. (AP) US industrialist Armand Hammer, whose huge joint venture coal mine in China has been plagued by disputes, signed a contract yesterday to build a new joint venture coal preparation plant.

He also signed an agreement for his Occidental Petroleum Corp. of Los Angeles to sell to two Chinese companies technology to produce phosphoric acid. Hammer, 89, refused to disclose the dollar value of the new projects and insisted Occidental is not losing money on the \$80-million Antailao coal mine in North China, the largest and most high-profile US-Chinese joint venture. Occidental has a 25 per cent share in the mine, 375 kilometres (230 miles) southwest of Beijing in Shaanxi province. It opened with great fanfare in September but has been operating well below capacity because of mechanical problems and disputes with the Chinese partners over the price at which the coal be sold.

"We consider the problems we have had there minor problems," Hammer told a news conference after signing the two new contracts at Beijing's Luxurious Diaoyutai state guesthouse.

"Those are the start-up problems you have with every project," he said. "These will be settled and we will be at full production, we estimate, by the end of the year." Asked about the financial cost of the disputes and delays, Hammer said: "We don't figure we've lost anything."

He insisted the mine can be profitable once it begins producing at its capacity of 15 million tons of raw coal per year, even if coal prices don't recover from their current low of about \$20 per ton. "We felt it was our duty to advise our bankers we were having these start-up problems," he added, but said the consortium of banks that extended a \$475-million loan for the mine "are satisfied with our explanation." The president of the joint venture, G.J. Gombos, sent a letter on March 30 to the banking consortium saying Antailao's Chinese partners were disputing a contract promise to maintain a minimum price for coal exported for the mine.

Debt freeze cost Brazil \$5 billion, says Nobrega

BRASILIA, April 27. (Reuter) Finance Minister Mairon Nobrega said yesterday Brazil's year-long freeze on payments on its commercial debt cost the country \$5 billion. Nobrega did not specify where the \$5 billion would have come from, but a ministry spokesman said he was referring mainly to lost new loans from banks and international lending agencies.

Nobrega made the statement in a departure from a prepared speech to Congress. Brazil ended the half of payments on its \$70 billion commercial debt early this year after it became a virtual outcast among foreign creditors. Nobrega spent three hours in Congress defending Brazil's return to orthodox debt policies before sharp criticism from lawmakers, including members of the country's most important party, the Brazilian Democratic Movement Party (PMD). In a major policy reversal from a year ago, President Jose Sarney's government is seeking a stand-by loan from the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The policy has generated controversy in Brazil, where the government itself has often denounced the IMF as contributing to recession. Brazil, the Third World's biggest debtor, virtually cut itself off from new funding by declaring a halt to interest payments on its foreign bank debt in February 1987. Nobrega, a career civil servant who took office in January, ended the debt moratorium and is trying to mend relations with the international banking community.

The government reached preliminary agreement with international banks last month on a new debt accord and Sarney said last week he expected a definitive agreement within days.

US experts arrive to tackle Brazil oilfield fire

SAO PAULO, Brazil, April 27. (Reuter) American fire-fighting experts arrived in Rio de Janeiro yesterday to tackle a blaze in Brazil's biggest oilfield. A spokesman for the state oil company Petrobras said the blaze at the offshore Campos basin off Rio de Janeiro state had caused more material damage than any other accident in the 35-year history of Petrobras. He said damage was estimated to be at least \$10 million already, and oil output had dropped by 60,000 barrels per day (bpd), nearly 10 per cent of national production. The spokesman said a drilling tower on the Enchova platform had been destroyed and added: "The communications tower is threatened and could fall at any moment." The fire began on the Enchova platform on Sunday after a gas leak. "At least for the next 15 days there is no prospect of putting out the fire," said the spokesman. There are two established methods for extinguishing fires in offshore oilfields: an explosion with dynamite to deprive the blaze of oxygen, or drilling a new well to inject fluids and prevent the escape of gas. The spokesman said it had not been decided which method would be used. Four fire-fighting ships are spraying the platform. There have been no casualties. All 250 workers on the platform were evacuated on Sunday before the blaze erupted.

The Petrobras spokesman said Brazil had a 60-day strategic stockpile of oil and would only start importing extra oil after about 15 days. Brazil's oil needs are about 1.2 million bpd, twice its normal production level.

Soviet industrial output up

MOSCOW, April 27. (AP) Soviet industrial production increased by 5 per cent in the first three months of 1988 as reforms requiring many factories and firms to operate on a self-sustaining basis went into effect, radio Moscow said on Monday. The official radio said Nikolai Belov, deputy head of the State Committee on Statistics, reported that the production increase exceeded the 4.5 per cent target set in state plans.

However, it said "production targets have not been met as regards a number of major commodities, and the quality of many of the goods is still substandard." The brief report did not specify the problem areas of the economy, or areas of success. It said the national income increased by 4 per cent. National income is a measurement of economic activity that differs from gross national product in not considering the value of some services. As of Jan 1, state-run factories and farms responsible for 60 per cent of the Soviet Union's production were required to depend on themselves for the revenue they need to operate.

That is one of the key elements of Mikhail S. Gorbachev's economic reforms, which are aimed at giving local managers more responsibility and flexibility. The Soviet Communist Party leader wants to limit central authorities to overall planning of the economy rather than exercising direct control over the production plans and quotas of factories and farms.

Elf Aquitaine buys in North Sea

LONDON, April 27. (Reuter) French state oil firm Elf Aquitaine is expanding its stake in Britain's North Sea oil fields, after an earlier bid failed, with its purchase on Monday of British mining firm Rtz Corp Plc's oil and gas business. Rtz said it sold its oil and gas business, which also has interests in onshore British fields as well as in the Netherlands and Italy, for £308 million (\$579 million). Elf tried to buy another British North Sea oil company, Tricentrol Plc, in January for £135 million (\$253 million), but was outbid by American oil giant Atlantic Richfield Co. The French firm is already a major player in Britain's offshore oil fields, and expects to pump the equivalent of 120,000 barrels of oil a day in 1988. Rtz decided to sell its oil business, with net assets as of the end of 1987 standing at £98.1 million (\$184.4 million), because it felt the cost of expanding the operation was too high, chief executive Derek Birkin said. "We needed to triple or quadruple our existing investment and we still would have been a second division player," he told Reuters in an interview. Rtz shares rose 11 pence (20 cents) to £3.78 after the announcement.

Most countries set trade barriers for farm crops

WASHINGTON, April 27. (AP) Almost every country provides support and protection for its agricultural products in some degree, a new government report says.

"In some cases this is done primarily through policies that raise prices to consumers by protecting the domestic market," the US department of Agriculture says in a recently published book on farm export policy.

"In other cases, assistance is provided through subsidies financed by the taxpayer," it says.

The report, aimed at informing Americans seeking to export food products, tells of quotas, tariffs, surcharges, health and sanitary rules and other restrictions that plague exporters to more than 100 countries.

However, it makes no judgment on whether the obstacles are fair.

The report notes that wine

can't be advertised in Norway and Sweden, where the governments want to hold down consumption of alcoholic beverages, and that margarine can't be advertised in France because the French dairy farmers from protection in butter sales.

There is no duty in Austria on imports of American rice, and Saudi Arabians apparently like American rice so much that rice from Thailand is packaged and sold there as if it came from the United States.

ended its credit operations for businesses. It was set up during the boom days in one of Africa's strongest economies.

Most African countries are encumbered by severe economic restraints, including high foreign debts, falling prices for export goods and devastating droughts.

Scarcity is a fact of life in Africa, especially in terms of money. For business people big or small, getting the money to turn development ideas into reality is a major problem.

The APDF accepts applications from small businesses with annual turnovers between \$500,000 and \$5 million and ideas that have a chance for success. It helps them prepare project feasibility studies for potential financiers, a service that is free of charge.

For four years Kanga Ballou, an Ivorian businessman, had been trying to get his hands on a million dollars to start West Africa's first pencil factory. He is very close to realising that dream.

Three out of four local banks have approved loan requests totalling \$600,000. An APDF feasibility study convinced the bankers of the profitability of

the project.

Scarcity is a fact of life in Africa, especially in terms of money. For business people big or small, getting the money to turn development ideas into reality is a major problem.

The APDF accepts applications from small businesses with annual turnovers between \$500,000 and \$5 million and ideas that have a chance for success. It helps them prepare project feasibility studies for potential financiers, a service that is free of charge.

For four years Kanga Ballou, an Ivorian businessman, had been trying to get his hands on a million dollars to start West Africa's first pencil factory. He is very close to realising that dream.

Three out of four local banks have approved loan requests totalling \$600,000. An APDF feasibility study convinced the bankers of the profitability of

the project.

Scarcity is a fact of life in Africa, especially in terms of money. For business people big or small, getting the money to turn development ideas into reality is a major problem.

The APDF accepts applications from small businesses with annual turnovers between \$500,000 and \$5 million and ideas that have a chance for success. It helps them prepare project feasibility studies for potential financiers, a service that is free of charge.

For four years Kanga Ballou, an Ivorian businessman, had been trying to get his hands on a million dollars to start West Africa's first pencil factory. He is very close to realising that dream.

Three out of four local banks have approved loan requests totalling \$600,000. An APDF feasibility study convinced the bankers of the profitability of

the project.

Scarcity is a fact of life in Africa, especially in terms of money. For business people big or small, getting the money to turn development ideas into reality is a major problem.

The APDF accepts applications from small businesses with annual turnovers between \$500,000 and \$5 million and ideas that have a chance for success. It helps them prepare project feasibility studies for potential financiers, a service that is free of charge.

For four years Kanga Ballou, an Ivorian businessman, had been trying to get his hands on a million dollars to start West Africa's first pencil factory. He is very close to realising that dream.

Three out of four local banks have approved loan requests totalling \$600,000. An APDF feasibility study convinced the bankers of the profitability of

the project.

Scarcity is a fact of life in Africa, especially in terms of money. For business people big or small, getting the money to turn development ideas into reality is a major problem.

The APDF accepts applications from small businesses with annual turnovers between \$500,000 and \$5 million and ideas that have a chance for success.

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

LONDON

London Stock Exchange

Prices at the time of going to Press

NAME LAST

ABBEY LFE 275/0

ADT LTD 114/0

ALD LYONS 426/0

ANSTRAD 162/0

ARGYL GP 200/0

ASDA GP 170/0

BAA PP 111/0

BTR 252/0

BAT IND 422/0

BARCLAYS 37/0

BASS 86/0

BEAVER 182/0

BEECHAMS 477/0

BERISFORD 307/0

BICC PLC 318/0

BLUE ARR 118/0

BLUE CIRC 425/0

BOC GP 379/0

BOOTS CO 229/0

BPB IND 278/0

BR COMM 282/0

BR AIRWAY 158/0

BR AEROSP 405/0

BR GAS RS 174/0

B.P. 277/0

B.P. NEW 79/0

BR TELCOM 246/0

BROLLS ROY 114/0

BRITOL 515/0

BUNZL 137/0

BURMAH OL 548/0

BURTON 250/0

CABLE&WIR 534/0

CADBURY 369/0

COATS VTR 250/0

CONI UNI 334/0

CONE GOLD 935/0

COOKSONS 534/0

COURTAULD 396/0

DALGETY 295/0

DEE CP 189/0

DIXONS 180/0

ENG CHINA 421/0

ENTER OIL 397/0

FKI BACK 123/0

FERRANTI 79/0

GEN ACCID 906/0

GEN ELEC 152/0

GLAXO 943/0

GRANADA 335/0

GLOBE 135/0

GLYNNED 460/0

GRAND MET 494/0

GUARD RYL 915/0

GIO 306/0

GUINNESS 315/0

HANOVER 568/4

HANSON 128/0

HAKER SD 473/0

HILLSDOWN 280/0

ICI 990/0

LONDON

(SRI LANKA)

Prices at the time of going to Press

NAME CLOSE OPEN

LAST 275/0

LAPORTE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

LASMO 382/0

LEGAL+GEN 275/0

LICHCAPE 715/0

JAGUAR 263/0

LADBROKE 406/0

LAND SECs 565/0

LAPORE 387/0

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 28-29, 1988

International Bond Highlights

New York — Moody's Investors Service Inc said it upgraded the ratings on Alcan Aluminium Ltd's 494 mln dlsr of debt (RTUW 1913). New York — Moody's Investors Service Inc said it affirmed the ratings of Societe Nationale Elf Acquafina after it agreed to buy the oil and gas operations of RTZ Corp for 308 mln stg (RTUV 1906).

Interbank Rates

CALL	ONE MONTH	THREE MONTHS
LDN 7-1/2 1/4	7-3/4 5/8	8-3/8 1/4
FFT 3.25/30	3.30/35	3.40/45
PAR 7-3/4 7/8	7-11/16 13/16	8 8-1/8
ZUR 1-3/8 1-5/8	1-7/8 2-1/8	2-1/4
BRX 6.50	6.00 1/8	6-1/16 3/16
ROM 9-7/8 10-3/8	10 10-1/2	10-1/2 11
ANS 3-7/8 3-15/16	3-15/16 4-1/16	4-0 4-1/16
TOK 3,3750 4375	3,8125 8750	3,8750 9375
ECU 5,875	6.12 6.25	6.31 6.43

Interest Rates

FOLLOWING are the average KD interest rates of local interbank transactions as reported by participants to Central Bank of Kuwait, yesterday.

Period	Bld	Offered
1 month	51/2	57/8
3 months	59/16	515/16
6 months	59/16	515/16
1 year	59/16	515/16

BOMBAY

PR. CLOSE	OPEN	CLOSE	GLINDIA	67	66	66.50	NICO	480	485	492.50
ACC 157	155	158.50	GRASIN	33.25	33	34	HUKAND	91	90	94.50
ASIA PAINT 142.50	142.50	145	GSCF	91.25	90	91	HOCIL	462.50	465	466
BAJAJ AUTO 203.75	203.75	210	HIND LEVER	1	99	95.50	ORKAY	23	22.50	24.25
BAL. RAYOR 205	207.50	212.10	HINDALCO	74	75	75	PFIZER	31	30	32.25
BON.DYING 125	125	127	HINDCOPA	73	72	74.50	PRAE.AUTO	55	53.50	58
BR. ROND 89	87	90	HINDMOTOR	17	17	17	RAYMOND	27.50	28	28
BSE INDEX 454.85	447.30	450.30	IND.ORG	20.50	19.75	20.75	RELIANCE	107	107	115
CENTURYSPG 805	805	827.50	INDRAYON	57	56.50	58	SIEMENS	61	61	65
COLGATE 168.75	168	172	INDROL	138.75	133.75	140	SPIC	32.75	32.25	34.25
DEEPAKPERT 28.50	28.50	29.25	ITC	33	33	34	STONWILL	215	222.50	220
EI.HOTEL 46	46	49	JKSYNT	52.50	52.25	54.25	TATA PWR	210	220	225
ESKAYEF 162.50	157.50	163.75	L AND T	84	84	87.50	TATACHEM	62.50	63	64
ESSAR 17.50	17.25	17	MAHINDRA	54	54	54.50	TELECO	465	465	482.50
GAR. POLY 74.50	74	76.50	MASTERSHR	10.31	10.12	10.25	TISCO	691.25	691.25	712.50
GE.SHIP 28.50	27.12	27.62	MATHER PL	70	69	71	VOLTAS	275	275	275

TOKYO

STOCK	LAST	PR-CLSE	MITSUB CP	1290	1310	MITSUB EL	748	750	752	754
AEG 204.3	204.7		AIJINOMOTO	3540	3500	MITSUB EST	2400	2440	2470	2500
ALLIANZ VR 1327.0	1310.0		AKAI ELEC	621	634	MITSUB HVY	712	725	730	740
BADENMERK 181.0	180.5		AKOI	1040	1050	MITSUI CO	925	922	915	910
BAF 244.9	243.5		ASAHI GAS	2050	2060	MITSUKOSHI	1780	1770	1760	1750
BAFER HYP 338.5	339.5		ASAHI OPT	663	670	MITSUNI EL	1280	1280	1280	1280
BAYER VER 338.0	339.0		BANK TOKYO	1580	1570	NICHICON	1410	1410	1410	1410
BBC 321.5	324.0		BRIDGESTON	1450	1470	NIHON CHNT	784	780	780	780
BHF 381.5	380.0		CANON	1270	1290	NIKKO SEC	2010	2060	2060	2060
BHM 511.0	508.5		CASIO COMP	1280	1280	NIP ELEC	2170	2190	2190	2190
CHEMIE-VER 0	120.0		CHUGAT MMG	1700	1700	NIP KOKAN	379	394	394	394
COMMERZBK 231.5	227.5		CITIZEN W	612	611	NIP OIL	1200	1180	1180	1180
CONTI GRMM 249.2	247.3		D-ICHI KAN	3170	3160	NIP STEEL	458	470	470	470
DAIMER BEN 621.5	615.1		DAI NIP IK	785	790	NIP YUSEN	635	647	647	647
DEUTSC BNK 614.0	611.5		DAI NIP PT	2730	2730	NIS MOTOR	965	995	995	995
DLW 358.0	348.0		DAI NIP SC	1150	1180	NOHARA SEC	4210	4300	4300	4300
DRESDNER 8.2	8.20		DAI NIP TO	550	542	ONBA CO	1080	1050	1050	1050
DTB BACOK 157.0	160.0		DAICEI	899	904	OLYMPUS ASIA	1160	1190	1190	1190
FAZ INDEX 426.69	446.68		DAIMA H	1860	1900	PENTEX ODC	850	840	840	840
GOLDSCHMID 253.0	254.2		DAIMA SEC	2700	2720	PIONEER	3320	3330	3330	3330
GUTEHOFF 0	0		EISAI	1010	1020	RENOV	1000	1020	1020	1020
HOECHST AG 254.4	252.5		FUJITSU	1520	1540	RICOH	1320	1310	1310	1310
HOESCH 121.5	120.4		FUJI BANK	3380	3350	SANYO ELEC	574	576	576	576
HORTEN 189.0	189.0		FUJI PHOTO	4160	4160	SEIYU ST	2490	2490	2490	2490
HUSSEN HLD 469.0	468.0		FUJISAWA	2170	2190	SEKISUI PB	2050	2040	2040	2040
KALI SALZ 132.0	136.0		HITACHI	1460	1460	SHISEIDO	1930	1930	1930	1930
KARSTADT 462.2	462.0		HONDA MOT	1810	1820	SONY	5520	5500	5500	5500
KAUFHOF 414.5	410.5		ISETAN	1690	1700	SUMITOMO	1140	1150	1150	1150
KLOECK H 102.0	102.5		ITO YOKADO	4730	4780	TAISEI	953	955	955	955
KLOECK W 90.60	91.00		JAP SYN RU	1060	1000	TAISHO MRN	1180	1180	1180	1180
LINDE 620.0	615.0		JAPAN AIR	15000	15300	TAKEDA CH	3050	3060	3060	3060
LUFTHANSA 148.0	145.0		JAPAN NET	557	569	TELJIN	822	831	831	831
MAN 176.0	177.0		KAJIMA	1590	1590	TKO NEW IX	170.51	176.38	176.38	176.38
MANNESMAN 136.4	133.9		KANSAI EL	2920	2910	TOKIO MRN	2100	2120	2120	2120
MERCEDES 501.0	498.5		KAO SOAP	2020	2040	TOKIO ELEC	1220	1210	1210	1210
METALLGES 269.0	266.0		KAWASAKI H	371	377	TONY GAS	1070	1080	1080	1080
NIXDORF HYD 508.5	505.7		KAWASAKI S	370	383	TOKYO POR	6030	6140	6140	6140
NORKS HYD 56.10	54.80		KIRIN BREW	2460	2460	TORAY IND	826	835	835	835
PHILIP KOM 594.0	601.5		KOMATSU	668	675	TOSHIBA EL	839	852	852	852
PORSCHE 532.0	525.5		KUBATO LTD	690	700	TOYO KOGO	514	511	511	511
PREUSSAG 166.0	164.0		KYOCERA	5450	5580	TOYOTA MOT	2480	2480	2480	248

Sterling eases

Dollar rises in quiet trade, gold gains

LONDON, April 27. (AP): The US dollar rose in quiet European trading this morning after strengthening earlier in Asia, foreign currency dealers said. Gold prices also rose.

Dealers said the dollar received some psychological support from its rise against the Japanese yen, which lost ground on signs the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries and seven non-Opec producers meeting in Vienna may be able to agree to substantive production cuts.

The yen is particularly sensitive to oil-prices developments because of Japan's heavy dependence on oil imports.

Buoyed

Dealers said the dollar was also buoyed by continued market uneasiness about developments in the Middle East, particularly Saudi Arabia's announcement last night that it was severing ties with Iran and giving Iranian diplomats one week to leave the country.

The market often views the dollar as a "safe haven" currency in times of political tensions.

Other dollar rates at midmorning, compared with late last night in London:

● 1.6785 West German marks, up from 1.6747

- 1.3895 Swiss francs, up from 1.3860
- 5.6991 French francs, up from 5.6875
- 1.8798 Dutch guilders, up from 1.8765
- 1.246.30 Italian lire, up from 1.244.00
- 1.2285 Canadian dollars, down from 1.2289

In London, the British pound was quoted at \$1.8730, cheaper for buyers than 1.8760 late yesterday.

London shares were marked higher in early today trading helped by takeover bid speculation, dealers said.

The FTSE index of 100 blue chip British stocks began 7.3 up at 1.808.1

Confectionary beverages group Cadbury-Schweppes Plc surged 56 pence (\$1.04) to £3.87 (\$7.24) at the opening, dealers said.

Rallied

Cadbury rallied after it's 17.7 per cent US shareholder, General Cinema, said it intended to take its stake to 25 per cent and seek control of the company.

This followed yesterday's £2.1 billion (\$3.95 billion) bid for British candy maker Rowntree Plc by Nestle of Switzerland.

Frankfurt dealers said Ger-

man shares were barely changed in early business with very little activity.

In Tokyo, stocks dropped on the Tokyo stock exchange today in pre-holiday profit-taking that broke a four-session winning streak, brokers said.

Reasons

The key Tokyo share index fell 54.80 points to finish at 27,191.97. Declines exceeded advances by 1.4 to one.

"There was buying in anticipation of Wall Street coming back and the US GNP figure coming in on target," said strategist Craig Chudler of Smith New Court Far East. "The market is on hold right now."

Japan's coming long weekend and three-day holiday next week were the main reasons for fence-sitting, most brokers said.

Steady

"Fund managers are doing some profit-taking now," said a broker at a large Japanese securities house. "Large capitals like steel and and shipbuilding are dead."

Wall Street's rebound to levels over 2,000 and a US first quarter Gross National Product (GNP) showing 2.3 per cent growth was no surprise to investors, brokers said.

Gained

It fell back as it met active forward dollar selling by Japanese exporters.

"Afterwards, we re-entered the same boring trading — featureless and directionless," said one dealer with a major Japanese bank.

Gold prices were \$449.20/

449.10 an ounce in late trading against \$448.50/449.00 at New York's close overnight.

In Sydney, the all ordinaries index gained 2.1 points to 1,443.3

The dollar held steady against the yen after neutral reaction to overnight news of the preliminary GNP figure.

Fears of renewed tension in the Middle East after Saudi Arabia said it had cut diplomatic ties with Iran put a floor under the dollar but persistent strong selling by exporters above 125 yen weighed on the currency.

The dollar closed at 124.99 yen and 1.6770/75 marks against 125.05/11 and 1.6765/70 in New York.

The dollar rose to around 125.25 yen overseas before the Tokyo market opened, due to renewed Middle East tension over the diplomatic rift between Saudi Arabia and Iran, dealers said.

Gained

Gold firmed in moderate trading in London on news of the OPEC meeting. Higher oil prices are seen as inflationary and often result in higher gold prices, since gold is a hedge against inflation.

At midmorning today, London's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$449.10 a troy ounce, little changed from the opening bid but up from late yesterday's \$447.50.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$449 up from \$448 late yesterday.

Earlier in Hong Kong, gold rose 1.03 to close at \$450.97.

Silver was quoted in London today at a bid price of \$6.37 a troy ounce, compared with yesterday's \$6.36.

In Sydney, the all ordinaries index gained 2.1 points to 1,443.3

after lackluster trading in all sectors.

Brokers said buyers and sellers seemed to be waiting for strong signals from offshore markets.

"Local fund managers are sitting on their hands at the moment but I don't think they know what they are waiting for," said a Sydney broker. "The market did open reasonably firm today but seemed to lack any guts."

Hong Kong share prices were slightly higher in late trading.

Higher

Gold firmed in moderate trading in London on news of the OPEC meeting. Higher oil prices are seen as inflationary and often result in higher gold prices, since gold is a hedge against inflation.

At midmorning today, London's five major bullion dealers fixed a recommended price of \$449.10 a troy ounce, little changed from the opening bid but up from late yesterday's \$447.50.

In Zurich, the bid price was \$449 up from \$448 late yesterday.

Earlier in Hong Kong, gold

rose 1.03 to close at \$450.97.

Silver was quoted in London

today at a bid price of \$6.37 a troy

ounce, compared with yesterday's

\$6.36.

In Sydney, the all ordinaries

index gained 2.1 points to 1,443.3

Reagan makes last-minute push to block US trade bill

WASHINGTON, April 27. (Reuter): President Reagan, faced with a defiant Congress, struggled to muster enough Senate votes to thwart a controversial trade bill aimed at helping US companies compete in foreign markets.

The battle over the bill, which seeks to force US trading partners to remove barriers inhibiting American competition, has been overshadowed by a clash between Congress and the White House over a provision dealing with a domestic issue.

The Senate is expected to give final congressional approval today to the bill, which would force the president to take action against countries with unfair policies, and send it to the White House for Reagan's almost certain veto.

Targets

Although no nations are singled out, the main targets include Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and West Germany.

But it is a provision of interest to labour unions with little bearing on trade issues and a large impact on domestic election-year politics that has most roused Reagan's ire.

The size of the Senate vote has become a central issue, with the

White House pressing hard to rally enough opponents to block any Democratic attempts to override a veto.

Administration and special interest lobbyist roamed Senate hallways trying to influence the vote, which serves as an initial test of Congress's ability to override a veto by the two-thirds margin needed in both the House and Senate.

Requirements

Reagan says the requirement would be unfair to US industry and should be negotiated by unions in contract talks rather than mandated from Washington.

Reagan also objects to a three-year ban on the sale of Japan's Toshiba products to the US government. The sanction, which also applies to the firm of Kongsberg Vaapenfabrikk of Norway, was inserted in the bill after the Pentagon said the firm sold sensitive technology that allowed the Soviet Union to build submarines that are more difficult to detect.

The legislation also empowers the president and his successor to conduct multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which was established in 1948 to liberalise world trade.

Efforts

The 1,100-page document, under consideration in Congress for more than three years, passed in the House by a 312-107 vote last week — more than enough to override a veto. Senate backers hope at least 70 of the 100 senators will vote for it.

"The president is going to be making a mistake if he vetoes this bill," Senate Democratic leader Robert Byrd said.

Senator Lloyd Bentsen, the Texas Democrat who led efforts to draft a compromise bill with the House, told reporters: "If the

president vetoes it, as we assume, then I think it's a close call as to whether we can override."

The clash centres on a provision, included by the Democratic-controlled Congress under heavy pressure from labour unions, requiring large firms to serve 60 days' notice before closing a plant or laying off a large number of workers.

Requirements

Reagan says the requirement would be unfair to US industry and should be negotiated by unions in contract talks rather than mandated from Washington.

Reagan also objects to a three-year ban on the sale of Japan's

Toshiba products to the US government. The sanction, which also applies to the firm of Kongsberg Vaapenfabrikk of Norway, was inserted in the bill after the Pentagon said the firm sold sensitive technology that allowed the Soviet Union to build submarines that are more difficult to detect.

The legislation also empowers the president and his successor to conduct multilateral trade negotiations under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT), which was established in 1948 to liberalise world trade.

Liquidity pushes down KD rates

HIGHER liquidity pushed down Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates on Tuesday.

Dealers said between KD 80

and 90 million would enter the

market yesterday from a maturing KD120 million three-month Treasury bill. The rest of the issue had already been sold back to the Central bank on the Secondary market.

Funds

Month-end salaries also helped sink short dates to below one per cent offers with no bids for overnight tomorrow and spot levels from 6-1/2, 5-1/2 per cent on Monday.

One-week funds dealt at 4-1/2 per cent and one-month at 5-3/4 and then 5-1/2. A three-month deal was reported at 5-7/8.

By early afternoon, one-month was quoted at 5-3/4, 1/2 per cent from six, 5-1/2 on Monday.

Two through 12-month maturities were quoted at 5-7/8, 5-5/8 per cent.

The Central Bank committed to sell Treasury bills on the secondary market.

It adjusted the dinar exchange rate slightly firmer to 0.27346/56 to the dollar from 0.27336/66 on Monday.

APL income surges

OAKLAND, California, April 27: American President Lines has announced first quarter earnings of \$20.9 million, or \$0.85 per share, fully diluted, on revenues of \$252.6 million, compared with earnings of \$19.5 million, or \$0.79 per share, fully diluted, on revenues of \$460.1 million in the first quarter of 1987.

Pre-tax income was \$36.7 million in the first quarter, compared with \$35.5 million in the first quarter of 1987.

Real estate operations contributed pre-tax income of \$12.6 million on revenues of \$14.6 million in the first quarter of 1988, compared to pre-tax income of \$7.1 million in 1987's first quarter. The increase in 1988 was due primarily to the sale of a 472-acre parcel of property near Sacramento, California.

Operations

Transportation operations generated pre-tax income of \$24.1 million on revenues of \$500.3 million in the first quarter of 1988 compared with pre-tax income of \$31.8 million on revenues of \$544.7 million in last year's first quarter.

American President Lines provides container distribution and transportation services within and between Asia and North America through an intermodal system combining ocean, rail and truck transportation.

Drilling activity increases slightly

ABU DHABI, April 27: (Kuwa): Drilling activity in the Gulf has shown a slight increase this year, according to a report published yesterday.

The Dubai-based English language daily Gulf News quoting industry sources said a seismic survey has been completed onshore in the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah in the UAE.

In Dubai, two development wells are being drilled offshore while in Sharjah the drilling of a new well K-1 is expected to resume shortly.

The paper said a third development well is expected to be spudded in Oman's Buqha field and an Australian company Broken Hill (BHP) will begin drilling offshore in the Gulf of Oman in late September.

Oil discovery

ISLAMABAD, April 27: (Kuwa): Oil has been struck in three places and natural gas at one place in Pakistan's southern province of Sind, Minister of State for Petroleum, Chaudhury Nisar Ali Khan, announced here yesterday.

He did not say what short-term consequences he meant.

Woods also cited US policy in Bangladesh, where he said food aid had been used to promote policy changes that encourage farm production.

"Food subsidies to segments of the population have also been cut by up to 75 per cent," he said.

"Buffer stocks and distribution management have been used to stabilise prices and make food more affordable to the rural poor."

Woods was testifying before the Foreign Operations subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

He did not say what short-term consequences he meant.

Woods also cited US policy in Bangladesh, where he said food aid had been used to promote policy changes that encourage farm production.

"Food subsidies to segments of the population have also been cut by up to 75 per cent," he said.

"Buffer stocks and distribution management have been used to stabilise prices and make food more affordable to the rural poor."

Woods was testifying before the Foreign Operations subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

He did not say what short-term consequences he meant.

Woods also cited US policy in Bangladesh, where he said food aid had been used to promote policy changes that encourage farm production.

"Food subsidies to segments of the population have also been cut by up to 75 per cent," he said.

"Buffer stocks and distribution management have been used to stabilise prices and make food more affordable to the rural poor."

Woods was testifying before the Foreign Operations subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

He did not say what short-term consequences he meant.

Woods also cited US policy in Bangladesh, where he said food aid had been used to promote policy changes that encourage farm production.

"Food subsidies to segments of the population have also been cut by up to 75 per cent," he said.

<p

Off the beaten track for an unusual holiday

Motoring on the byways of Britain

By Bob Barton

THERE is a scenic stretch of coast road nine miles south of Ayr in Scotland where motorists are convinced they are driving downhill when in fact they are going up. It is an amazing optical illusion and many a car has stalled here as a result. The "Electric Brae" is unique — thankfully driving elsewhere in Britain is not at all disconcerting.

Britain is among the best countries for a motoring holiday, especially for those with the time and inclination to get off the beaten-track. Most visitors do have one hurdle to overcome: adapting to driving on the left-hand side of the road. Cars overtake on the right and priority must be given to traffic coming from the right at roundabouts. With a little confidence, the skills are soon mastered.

Network

There is a good network of minor and trunk roads and toll-free motorways. With the opening, in 1986, of the M25 motorway round London — the world's longest city bypass — it is now much easier for those arriving by sea at the southern and east coast ports, or by air at any of the London airports, to avoid the capital if they so wish. It cost nearly £1,000 million to build, and is, probably the country's most useful motorway.

On its circular route at a radius of 21 to 35 km from the

centre of London it has no less than 32 junctions with roads radiating to and from the city, including seven other important motorways towards the Midlands, Northern England, Wales, Scotland and England's West Country for example.

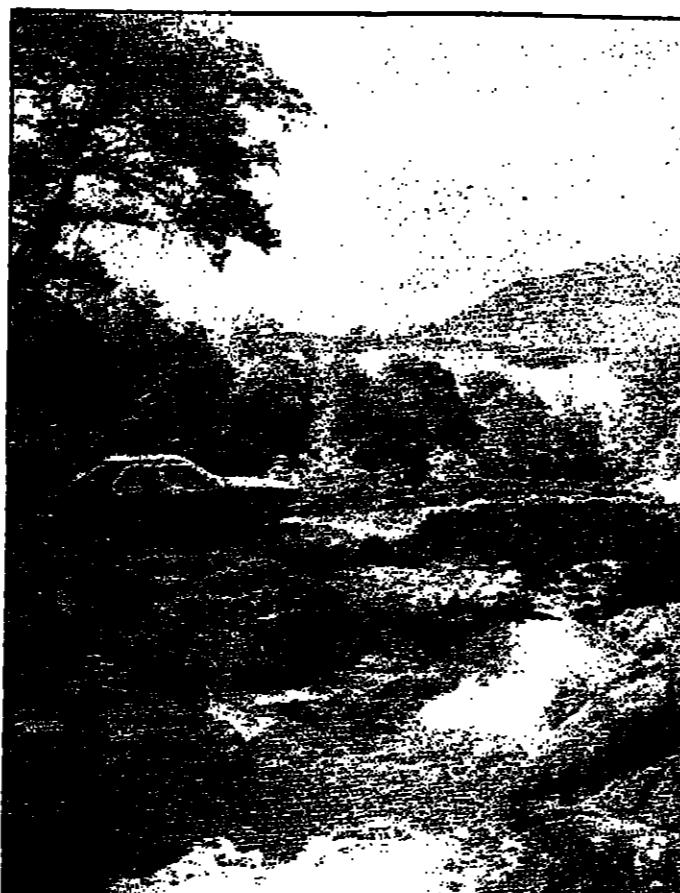
The M25 now has its own tourist information centre, recently opened at South Mimms service area 15 miles north of London. It is the latest in a nationwide network of centres, many ideally located for motorists, providing all kinds of holiday information. Most centres can make overnight bookings in their vicinity for the same night, and many can "book a bed ahead" for the following night in another area, thus avoiding worries about finding bed and breakfast, farmhouse or hotel accommodation.

Optimum

Armed with a good road map (the Ordnance Survey and Automobile Association publications are ideal) and a rented car if you are not bringing your own, you are all set to head out on the open road.

Pre-planning your itinerary pays dividends. Decide in advance whether you want to do a whistle-stop tour of the whole country or concentrate on a specific region or interest.

Ten days is optimum time to allow for a "Highlights of Britain" tour taking in historic cities, superb countryside and grand stately homes and castles in England, Scotland and



Ashness Bridge.

Wales. Starting from London and heading north there are the famous cities of Cambridge, Lincoln, York and Durham; then the Scottish border is crossed and the delights of Edinburgh, Stirling and Glasgow

await. You can return south through the beautiful Lake District National Park containing England's highest mountains and nearly all her largest lakes — 17 of them.

Next are the lively seaside

resort of Blackpool, and Chester with its medieval streets of shops and houses, before you enter North Wales: the mountains of Snowdonia and the imposing castle at Caernarfon shouldn't be missed. On the return to London, Shakespeare's Stratford, the Cotswold Hills, the Georgian city of Bath and Longleat House, stately home of the Marquis of Bath, are among the many places which can be visited.

Such an all-embracing tour can only scratch the surface of Britain's heritage and, as it involves quite a lot of driving each day, is not to everyone's taste. Many visitors prefer to choose an itinerary covering one region in more detail. Edinburgh, for example, is a natural starting point for an eight- to ten-day tour of "Spectacular Scotland". The 405 miles from London to Scotland's capital can be driven comfortably in eight hours, or take the train (4½ hours) and rent a car on arrival.

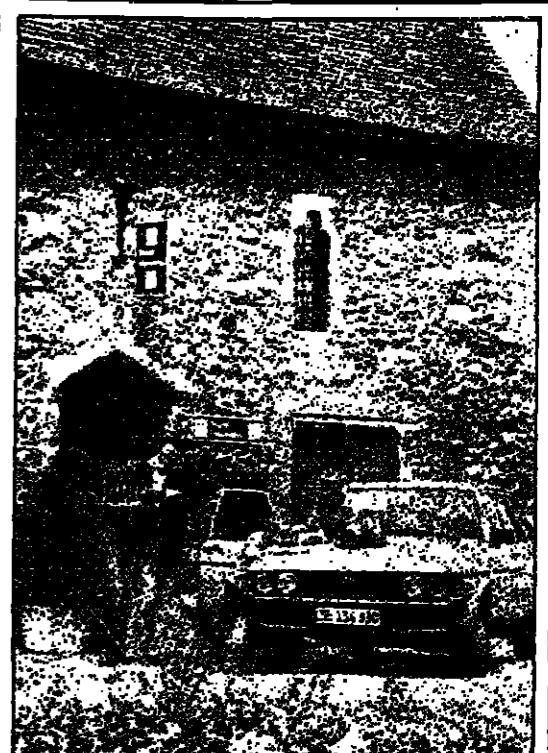
Haunts

A circular itinerary going south to the gentle Borders, and north as far as Inverness, "Capital of the Highlands", takes in an amazing variety of sights and scenes. Visit castles such as 15th-century Cawdor; Glamis with its "Macbeth" associations or Blair Castle near Pitlochry, home of the Atholl Highlanders, the only private army in Britain. Drive along sparkling lochs such as Loch Lomond, Loch Linnhe (in the shadow of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis) and Loch Ness, where you may catch a glimpse of the elusive monster, Nessie! Near Grantown-on-Spey there are whisky distilleries that welcome visitors; while in the south there are beautiful abbeys and Abbotsford House, home of 18th-century novelist Sir Walter Scott.

The haunts of Britain's great writers and poets is an idea for a special interest motoring itinerary: again, eight to ten days is sufficient for a circular tour taking in places linked with at least 12 much-loved writers. Driving a clockwise route from



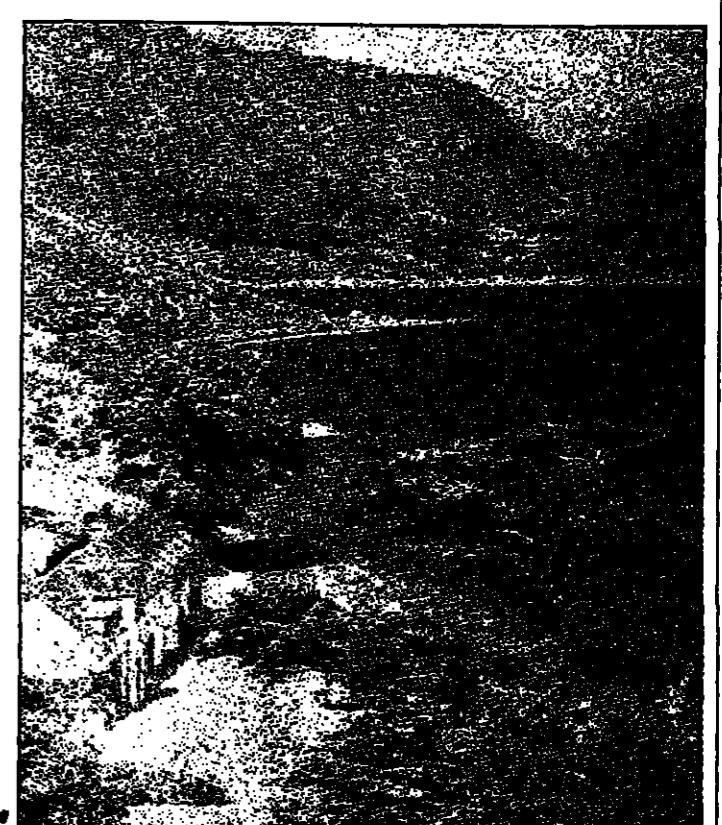
On the banks of Loch Lomond in the Scottish Highlands (left) and (right), a tourist information centre in case you're lost.



London, it is only 31 miles south-east of the cathedral city of Rochester with its many links with Charles Dickens. Across Kent and into Sussex a pleasant drive takes you to Batemans, the house and water-mill between Tunbridge Wells and the coast, where Rudyard Kipling lived. The picturesque Hampshire village, Chawton, is where Jane Austen wrote her novels; while, farther west, the area around Dorchester in Dorset is known as "Hardy Country" — being part of Thomas Hardy's fictionalshire, Wessex in his books.

By the time you return to London, Shakespeare's birthplace at Stratford-upon-Avon, the rustic homes of William Wordsworth and Beatrix Potter in the Lake District and, among others, the bleak parsonage home of the Bronte sisters in Yorkshire, will be behind you without any steps being retraced.

The above three routes are examples for "Motoring Itineraries in Britain" published by the British Tourist Authority in association with Budget Rent a Car. Available free from overseas BTA offices, it details 15 suggested motoring routes ranging from five to 14 days and mainly dealing with geographical areas. There are three theme tours, however: the



Lake Tal-y-Llyn, Snowdonia National Park.

writers' route already mentioned: a tour of Norman England; and a bumper 14-day route for lovers of Britain's gardens. Budget Rent a Car is one of Britain's biggest rental companies, with about 125 locations hiring over 6,500 vehicles, and reservation offices worldwide.

Morocco: a baffling and entrancing mosaic

By Daniel B. Wood

TANGIER, Morocco: Morocco is the African and Muslim country nearest to Europe and — 19 miles away from Spain across the Strait of Gibraltar — quite accessible. But set one foot in the country, and you'll wonder how a land that is African, Arabian, and European all at the same time can seem so far away from each of these worlds. Picture these typical Moroccan scenes:

El Minzah Hotel in Tangier. Men in silk vests, baggy trousers, and pointed slippers whisk trays of mint tea through a spacious parlor decked with Persian rugs and gilded divans. And there were the omnipresent faces from the shadows — some from women behind chaddars (shawls) — that almost too intently followed you with their eyes.

Though the mundane memories have faded over time, they remain an essential ingredient of the baffling and entrancing mosaic that is Morocco.

Ubiquitous guides-for-hire are, in fact, an interesting part of a visit to Morocco. All four of ours found us, rather than the other way around. Many were young students who wanted to practice their English (or Italian, German, etc.) and were willing to charge practically nothing for the privilege. Others were government licensed.

Though we found none was extremely accommodating in figuring out dates and places, all were extremely accommodating in figuring out logistics

to Marrakesh, and then to Casablanca, we were stopped three times in the rural reaches by country police for no apparent reason — and each time pressed for a "gift" of dirhams to the tune of about \$4 or \$5. And true to the famous line from the pickpocket in the classic film "Casablanca," "beware of vultures, vultures everywhere" — we met our share of conniving salesmen. Some were in cahoots with the guides we hired to show us through the various medinas. And there were the omnipresent faces from the shadows — some from women behind chaddars (shawls) — that almost too intently followed you with their eyes.

Though the mundane memories have faded over time, they remain an essential ingredient of the baffling and entrancing mosaic that is Morocco.

Part of Morocco's mystique is its vast and complicated history. There were conflicts from the beginning between the native Berbers, the Arabs that brought Islam, and European powers.

Today most of Morocco's 20 million people are Muslim Arabs, but there are Berber, Christian, and Jewish minorities. Although Arabic is the official language, Berber, French, and Spanish are also spoken.



A young unmarried woman of the tribe of Ait Hadidou in the High Atlas mountains in Morocco.

and itineraries and helping to make purchases of food or souvenirs. Perhaps most important, I would not enter the labyrinthine medinas without one, for fear of losing my way for good. And it's helpful to have a loyal countryman to keep the aggressive hucksters at bay, not to mention other guides.

Scenario

In a scenario that was repeated in three cities, we spent half days seeing the historic sites — famous mosques, casbahs (citadels), palaces, schools, museums, and shopping districts. The latter include open-air markets of spices and meat, fabric, leather, metal, and rugs.

Everywhere we went we were taken to special shops where "special discounts" were promised by our guides. In fact, the guides got a percentage of everything we purchased.

The old Arab section of Fez is the oldest and largest in Morocco and my recommendation as a must-see of the country. The walls, courtyards, and stalls were built in the 9th century, and to walk there today it seems like no time has passed since. Listen for the call "belak," and watch out for "donkey's coming," which announces a chain of pack-carrying donkeys that stop for nothing in their way.

In the heat of noonday, the stench of certain sections of the medina is enough to make your eyes water.

Early evening in Morocco is the most memorable and pleasurable time of day. The citygoers come out to be seen, and more of the street performers — fire-eaters, jugglers, snake charmers — abound. Swirls of cumulus clouds hug the horizon, turned aglow by the setting sun, which caps the Rif and Atlas Mountains with a thin ridge of gold.

If you wish just to find a vista and relax, you're in league with the caravans of old. Camel drivers who stopped at the outer edges of towns such as Marrakesh used to toss their date seeds into the ground. This has resulted in rings of date palm trees that silhouette against both desert and snowcapped hills.

The image is so poignant that it is the romance of Morocco that lingers in the mind when the banal begins to fade.

Since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, Afghan rebels like this man call Peshawar, Pakistan their temporary refuge from the fighting.

Even with its added burden, Peshawar is a welcome place

By Kristin Helmore

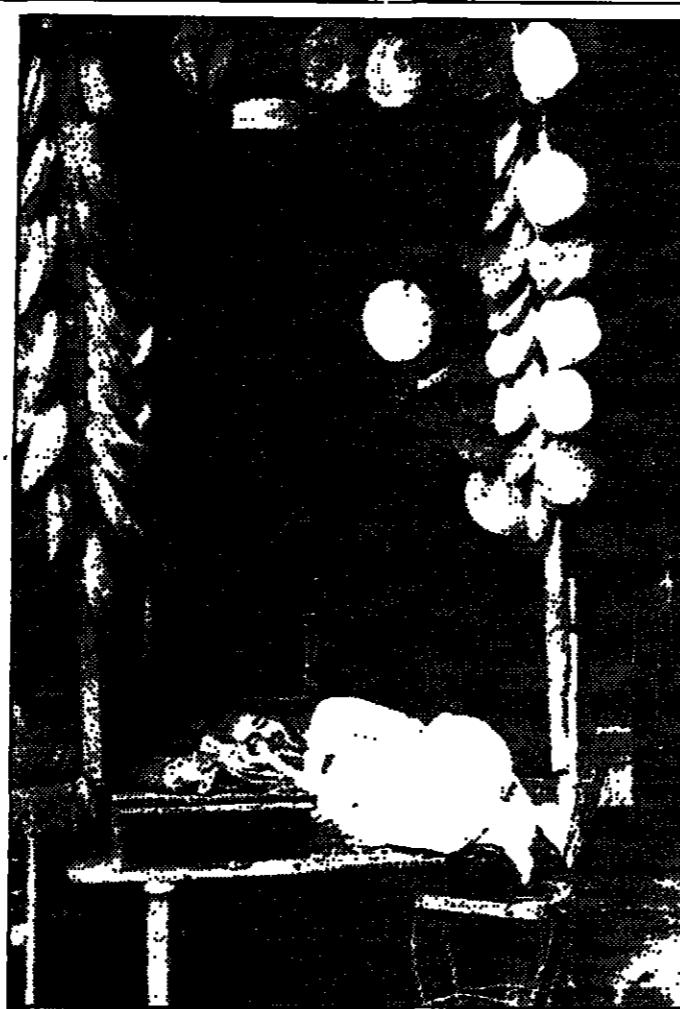
PESHAWAR, Pakistan: "Peshawar is a pretty town," wrote Paul Theroux in 1975. "I would gladly move there, settle down on a veranda, and grow old watching sunsets in the Khyber Pass. Peshawar's widely spaced mansions, all excellent examples of Anglo-Gothic, are spread along broad sleepy roads under cool trees..."

One wonders what Mr. Theroux would think of Peshawar today. The presence of 3 million Afghan refugees has transformed the city from "pretty" to dusty and worn, from "sleepy" to bustling and crowded.

The streets are choked with people, animals, and vehicles, though most Afghans live outside the town in Sunbaked, windblown refugee camps. The camps are quiet, clean, orderly, and sad: uniform grids of small, square, baked-mud houses sitting in the wide, grassy plains. Some have a view of the mountains of Afghanistan.



Horse cart with rubber tyres negotiates a busy street in Peshawar, filled with cars and motor scooters.



A shopkeeper catches forty winks among his hats in the city's old bazaar.

may be polyester: It seems to only come in these standard, solid shades. A band of tight-knit net across the eyes allows the wearer to look out-preventing, at the same time, the remotest possibility of anyone looking in.

Pakistanis — even the poorest — are happy to invite a foreigner into their homes. In a one-room mud-brick house, a visitor sits on the cot (the only seat) while the husband sits on the bare earth floor. The wife, unveiled at home, looks on with her children from the doorway in friendly curiosity. One of the children is sent to buy the guest an unsolicited soft drink that costs more than a day's wages. The visitor protests, drinks it down, and the family looks very pleased.

The British have left their mark on Peshawar, though it's

beginning to fade. The old Indo-colonial buildings, with their elaborate lattice-work and layers of intricate carving, are ragged with age and disrepair. Yet they are beautiful and exotic to foreign eyes. More than 40 years have passed since Pakistan and India became separate, independent countries. But reminders of the British presence survive in the clipped expressions of a loquacious "chowkidar" (caretaker), in the flocks of uniformed schoolchildren, and in that famous old bastion of colonialism, Dean's Hotel. Dean's is surprisingly modest: a line of tidy cottages looking more like Surrey than the Northwest frontier of the imperial Raj.

Our hotel is modern and nondescript, but the furniture in the rooms is strangely harem-like, with dark, carved wood and overstuffed, velvet-covered sofas. A green-and-white decal stuck on the coffee table in our room indicates the direction of Makkah, so that the faithful can say their prayers facing in the right direction.

Late one afternoon I took a three-wheeled scooter-taxi through the teeming, noisy, jostling streets. These tiny vehicles buzz and rasp like swarms of angry bumble-bees. Their outsides are painted and decorated as elaborately as the most exotic insects.

Mine was decorated inside too, with cabbage-rose paper and scarlet fringe. The driver's income probably supports 20 people. As we sped — fragile as an eggshell — down one of Theroux's broad roads, the dust rising around us was golden in the evening light.

I felt safe and happy, as one does among friends.

1988, The Christian Science Monitor News Service.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION Available

HAWALLI, near Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital, 4th Ring Road. Furnished spacious room with separate bath and tele facilities for 2 bachelors to share with a Keralite family. Tel. 2439264 ext. 203, 8.30 am - 2 pm. (AT5-42030-2)

KUWAIT City, near the Meridian Hotel, sharing accommodation in a big room in a flat for an Indian bachelor. Tel. Suresh, 2415470, 1.30 - 7 pm. (AT5-42029-3)

SALWA, House 196, Block 7 behind Imani shop. One big room with water, electricity and kitchen for a family/bachelors. Bus routes 34, 102. Rent KD50. Tel. 5611243. (AT5-42031-3)

SALMIYA, Bagdad Street. Accommodation for bachelors, to share with a Goan family. Convenient to bus routes 30, 109, 14. Tel. Anthony, 4832441, 4831409, 8.30 am - 3 pm. (AT5-42049-3)

For Rent

SALMIYA, near Indian School. Two apartments: (1) consisting of 2 bedrooms and a living room with a floor. Rent KD135 with water and electricity. (2) Consisting of 2 bedrooms and a living room. Rent KD155. Tel. 5624459, 4-9pm. (AT5-42021-3)

WANTED Female or male secretary

with experience in trading business in shorthand, dictation and typing letter of credit. Pls contact our Tel: 4839608/9 From 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and 8:00 pm to 9:30 pm

SALWA, fully furnished 2 bedroom flat, CAC with basement and phone. Rent KD 200. Tel. 5730720. (AT5-42046-3)

NEAR the city. Annex and separate room for a family or working lady. Tel. 2560835, afternoons. (AT5-42006-3)

Wanted

KHALDIYA, Omariya or Old Kheitan, accommodation required in a single furnished room with meals for a Muslim bachelor to share with one Muslim bachelor from 1st May. Tel. Shahrir, 4816326/7, 9am - 2pm. (AT5-TM-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

WINDSURFER, KD40, television stereo system and also various household goods for sale. Tel. 4840760, evenings. (AT5-42037-3)

SINGLE & double beds; side tables; cupboards; sofa set; chairs; 18ft speed boat; Canon AE1 copying machine; surfboards. Owner leaving Kuwait. Tel. 3902105. (AT5-42026-3)

EUROPEAN sofa set 3 piece Ikea style, video camera, National WVP JOON 8xzoom, with several professional features. Hitachi video tuner VT7E portable stereo Dolby sound. Tel. 4749616. (AT5-42051-2)

YAMAHA guitar with case in brand new condition. For details please tele. 5734058, after 3 pm. (AT5-42007-3)

20" Sony TV and JVC VCR without remote controls. Two years old, little used. KD120 for both the items. Arifeen, 4896000 ext 3844, 9am - 1pm. (AT5-42008-3)

HOUSEHOLD things and furniture for sale. Tel. Mr. Shaikh, 5759696. (AT5-42060-2)

TV 20" colour ITT with remote, KD 90 and Sharp VCR double cassette with remote, KD 130 for immediate sale. Tel. Mr. S. Kumar, 2407900-2 ext 106, after 3 pm. (AT5-42053-2)

CAR/computer — 1981 Mazda, 60,000 km, excellent condition. KD250. Zenith, IBM compatible, colour/amber monitors, hard disk, multifunction, modern, more KD350. Tel. Ken, 2623957, evenings. (AT5-42009-3)

FOR RENT

Villas, 1/2 villas, flats, apartments, stores, etc., in all areas of Kuwait.

Al-Montakal
Real Estate
Tel: 2418655
2426888

WANTED

A leading furniture establishment requires full-time

Electrician
with experience in this field.
Tel. 4736005
Kamel

WANTED

**Master cutter,
dress-maker
and beaders
with experience.**

Tel. 3921310

WANTED

**Door-to-door
Services to
Philippines**

MITSUBISHI Galant estate 1983, AC, manual, white, registered and insured upto February 89, KD500 ono; snooker/pool table 6ft x 3ft with accessories, KD110. Tel. 5749742. (AT5-41993-3)

CHRYSLER Newport 1977, AC, automatic, white, new tyres, used as second car, in good condition. KD 235, ono. Cash. Tel. Charles, 5749742. (AT5-41993-3)

MITSUBISHI Pajero, 1983 with 4 deluxe wheels and tyres plus 5 spare wheels and tyres. KD 1050. Tel. 3902105. (AT5-42027-3)

NISSAN Pulsar 1983, 60,000 kms, manual, regularly maintained in excellent condition. KD500. Tel. Chris, 2623953. (AT5-42010-3)

CAMARO Z28, 1982, new type, fully automatic, black/gold, in very good condition. KD 1600 ono. Tel. Alex, 4848229, 9 am - 3 pm, Thursday and Sunday only. (AT5-42055-3)

Cars

HONDA Civic, 81, automatic, 4 doors, silver metallic, in very good condition. Tel. 5652943, 9 am - 2 pm. (AT5-42050-3)

RANGEROVER 1982 model, lady driven, in good condition. KD1200. Tel. 3946162. (AT5-42039-3)

CHRYSLER New Yorker 1983 model, fully automatic, AC, gold colour, registered to March 1989. KD 975. Tel. Mr Rick, 5726936. (AT5-42057-3)

Furniture

DOUBLE bed for sale. Tel. 5336166, after 10 am. (AT5-42001-3)

Sofa sets, coffee tables, Moulinex chopper-grater etc.

going cheap. If interested please tele. 2460987, 9 am - 12.30 pm, 8 - 10 pm. (AT5-42038-2)

YAISH

Door-to-door service

To Manila - Philippines, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Cairo, all over the world, including packing services.

(Dagdagdilang lababoy)

Tel. 2410253/2413678.

With free ticket to Manila, no mega piecy.

Computers

BBC computer model 'B' disc drive with 16 different software items, books etc. KD250 ono. Tel. Jacob, 2517968 Ext. 25, 9am - 1 pm. (AT5-42042-3)

PETS

PERSIAN kittens, registered papers available, for sale. KD80. Tel. 5314119. (AT5-42056-3)

SITUATIONS

Wanted

BRITISH female lawyer, seeks temporary employment; executive, clerical post preferred. Most types of work considered. Tel. 3983161. (AT5-42044-3)

Furniture

MAID required for a family with one child to live-in. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Tel. Wajid, 2467881/3/4, 9 am - 4 pm. (AT5-42017-3)

FOR RENT

Benefit Al Sharq and in Al Shaab area, near the sea; deluxe flats in new building, 2 bedrooms, one saloon, 2 bathrooms and a kitchen. Rent KD 275 with water and electricity.

Saad Al Dabbous

Real Estate

Tel. 2418969/3, 2435571

9 am - 3 pm

Vacant

MAID required for a family with one child to live-in. Must speak English and have a transferable residence. Tel. Wajid, 2467881/3/4, 9 am - 4 pm. (AT5-42016-2)

Required

DRAFTSMEN Civil & Architectural Must have minimum 5 years experience. Tel. 2454295

Al Khadra Real Estate

(Under British Management)

Apartments and villas for rent in various locations throughout Kuwait. Ring Ken Winston, Tel. No. 5758060/5756888 ext. 263 or 5758870.

Situations vacant

Special education teachers and aides wanted for fall 1988.

Send CV to P.O. Box 44155

Hawaii 32056 or call 533-

6341, 8-10 am Sat/Mon or

5628029 evenings.

PRE-SCHOOL training for L.K.G. and U.K.G. of the Indian School syllabus, given by a graduate teacher in a CAC apartment, behind Burjan Bank, HO, Sharq. Tel. 2422757. (AT5-42033-3)

Transport

REQUIRED for a lady from Fahaheel to Ras Salhiya, at ministry timings. Tel. Lobo, 4718421, 6.30 am - 12.30 pm, 2545658, 5 - 10 pm. (AT5-42047-3)

FOR RENT

Mishrif Villa, 4 bedrooms with carpet and curtains, KD 650. Villa with swimming pool, KD 850, 4 bedrooms, KD 850. Sea Villa, 5 bedrooms with swimming pool, KD 800. Villa for ambassador, KD 1800 plus many villas and flats available in areas in Kuwait.

Qatar Real Estate
Tel: 2406592, 2406593

FOR RENT

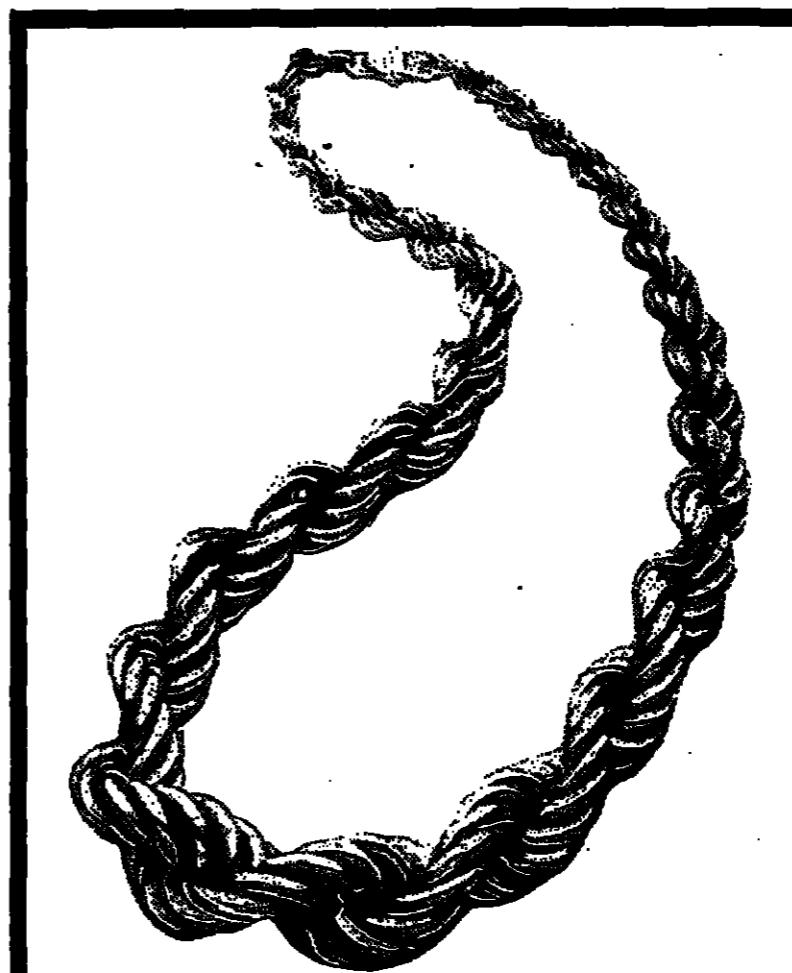
Villas, half villas, buildings, and flats with or without swimming pool.

Al Azraq Real Estate
Tel. 2452199, 2452198

Situations vacant

Special education teachers and aides wanted for fall 1988. Send CV to P.O. Box 44155 Hawaii 32056 or call 533-6341, 8-10 am Sat/Mon or 5628029 evenings.

EXQUISITE ITALIAN DESIGNS at affordable prices

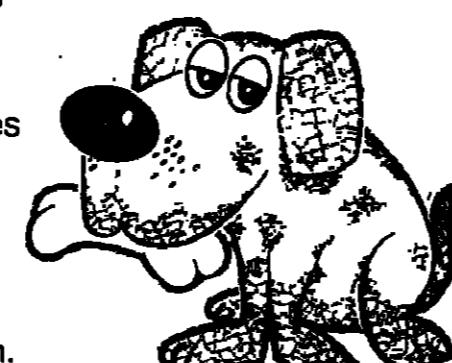


Come in and see our new line of gold and precious jewellery

Boutique
Al Nerah

Souk Al Watya Kuwait Telephone 2448562.

Looking for a warm and friendly home?



Then do it through the classified pages of the Arab Times

We have the friendliest readers in town.

ARAB TIMES NEWS IS OUR BUSINESS

ARALIYA RESTAURANT

For the first time in Kuwait the most cosy and spacious Sri Lankan Restaurant opened.

Araliya can offer you real Sri Lankan dishes, Chinese, Indian and Western cuisine, can arrange your parties & receptions.

Araliya has a take-away and outside catering service too.

Come and enjoy the Sri Lankan hospitality.

Tel: 2402540

ARALIYA

Customer Services Tel: 4745533

Alghanim

Sea-Freight-Air

Fahsheel 3923496/8 - Sharq 2460972/3

Murgab 2412595/2416691

SPORTS**Osterthun surprises Schapers**

HAMBURG, West Germany, April 27. (Reuter): While awaiting the first appearance of top seed Boris Becker, other lesser-known local players took the opportunity of grabbing attention at the West German Open tennis tournament yesterday.

Hamburg-born Ricki Osterthun reigned the day's biggest success, taking out eighth seed Michel Schapers of the Netherlands 7-5 6-0 in the second round.

His reward was a third-round meeting with another seed, ninth-ranked Claudio Mezzadri of Switzerland. "Even though he is seeded I'm counting on winning," Osterthun confidently declared.

Hansjorg Schwaeber set up a likely third-round meeting with France's Henri Leconte with a tough, two hours 10 minutes victory over American Jim Pugh 6-3 6-6-2.

Two other West Germans overcame seeded opposition in first-round matches. Peter Meincke beat 16th-ranked Thomas Muster of Austria 6-7 6-3 7-5 while Heiner Moraig defeated 14th-seeded compatriot Eric Jelen 7-6 6-3.

Hurdle

Top seed Becker, beaten in the second round at Monte Carlo last week, should pass that particular hurdle in Hamburg when he plays Mansour Bahrami of Iran this evening.

Certain of playing before a packed 10,000 crowd, 32-year-old Paris-based Bahrami intends to provide entertainment for the fans if not a serious challenge to Becker.

"Winning a match doesn't count for me," said Bahrami, ranked 230th in the world. "Against Boris I'll let fly, I want to give the fans some fun."

Fourth seed Joakim Nyström, known like world number one Ivan Lendl for his concentration and seriousness on court, had no difficulty reaching the third round. The Swede thrashed Frenchman Thierry Champion 6-0 6-2.

White and Davis head for showdown

SHEFFIELD, England, April 27. (Reuter): Top seeded Steve Davis and Jimmy White were heading for their seemingly-inevitable showdown as the World Professional Snooker championship entered the quarter-final stage yesterday.

World number two, White reeled off seven straight frames to lead English compatriot Tony Knowles 7-1 at the end of the first session of their best-of-25 frames quarter-final, while Davis led Malta's Tony Drago 6-2.

White is appearing in the last eight for the fifth successive year, though he has reached the final only once when he was beaten 18-16 by Davis in 1984.

Knowles won the first frame after a long exchange of safety shots but it was one-way traffic after that as the brilliant White compiled breaks of 95, 78, 65, 46, 32, 32 and 31 to take a substantial lead.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Garry Kasparov

BRUSSELS, Belgium, April 27. (AP): World chess champion Garry Kasparov said yesterday the game's ruling body should cede responsibility for the world championship and other major events to a group representing the leading players.

IBF title

PARIS, April 27. (Reuter): American Charles Williams will defend his IBF world light-heavyweight boxing title against Richard Caramanolis of France in Annecy on June 10, promoters said yesterday.

MTK midfielder

BUDAPEST, April 27. (UPI): Gyorgy Bognar, the 27-year-old midfielder from Hungarian First Division club MTK VM has signed a five-year contract with French Soccer League club FC Toulon.

Hungary's athletes

BUDAPEST, April 27. (UPI): More of Hungary's athletes will be able to turn professional when regulations governing sports are liberalised in May.

Ice hockey

STOCKHOLM, April 27. (UPI): Swedish ice hockey star Mats Kihlstrom will sign a six-year contract with Swedish side Soderjante, passing up the possibility of an offer from the NHL's Calgary Flames.

New system

VIENNA, April 27. (UPI): A new marking system for sports grounds has been unveiled at Austrian Soccer League leader Rapid Vienna's Hanappi stadium. The system involves injecting brushlike polyethylene bundled monofibres into the earth just below the normal grass cutting level.

Olympic champion

LONDON, April 27. (UPI): Mark Todd, the Olympic three-day event champion, will ride two of the three horses he hopes to qualify for the Seoul Olympics at Saumur, France, at a meeting starting tomorrow.

America's Cup

WELLINGTON, April 27. (Reuter): Merchant banker Michael Fay said today Britain must build a 90-foot yacht if it wants to take part in an America's Cup elimination series to decide who will meet the San Diego holders later this year.

Tennis rankings

LONDON, April 27. (AP): South American players dominate the latest junior world ranking list released yesterday by the International Tennis Federation covering 38 tournaments.

Bridge

RESULTS of Hubra Bridge held on Saturday:

N/S
1st Mrs Sandra Turvey & Adel Bayoumi
2nd Shyamali Choudhury & Dhruba Mukherjee
3rd Ghazi & Yaseen
E/W
1st Mrs Pereira & B. D'Souza A.
2nd Mohammed Merchant & Narendra Shah
3rd Mrs Camilia Guirgis and George

PAKISTAN TAKE FIVE CARIBBEAN SIDE'S WICKETS FOR 154

W. Indies look to Richards for victory

BRIDGETOWN, April 27. (Reuter): West Indies, with half their wickets down, needed a further 112 for victory over Pakistan in the third and final Test today — but the key wicket of Vivian Richards was still intact.

At the close of the fourth day they were 154 for five with Richards 26 not out. With Pakistan 1-0 up, only a West Indian victory will save them from their first series defeat in the Caribbean since they lost to Ian Campbell's Australians in 1973.

Swinging

The match, which from the first day has had numerous twists and turns, looked to be swinging West Indies' way when 45 minutes after tea they had raced to 118 for two. But three wickets fell for 32 runs to leave the game wide open.

Pakistan's second innings, standing at 177 for six overnight, closed at 262 half-an-hour after lunch when Salim Jaffer was clean bowled by Curtley Ambrose.

The last four wickets yielded 65 runs, largely thanks to a fighting 43 not out in 170 minutes by Imran Khan, who was given good support by the gutsy Salim Yousof.

Dropped first ball at first slip by Richards or Malcolm Marshall, who had dismissed Wasim Akram lbw for nought with his



Richards: unbeaten on 26

seventh ball of the day. Yousof drove and pulled his way to a defiant 28. But he did not keep wicket in West Indies' second innings.

Marshall claimed his fifth victim of the innings when wrist

spinner Abdul Qadir was caught at second slip. He finished with five for 65.

Despite losing Desmond Haynes for four in the seventh over to Wasim, the West Indies launched a blistering assault on

the Pakistani bowling, bringing up the 50 in only 10.5 overs.

Gordon Greenidge, having blasted his way to 35 off 51 balls, could not resist the medium pace of Salim Jaffer as soon as he was introduced and drove straight to extra cover.

Qadir's ploy of bowling round the wicket into the rough worked well thereafter.

Richie Richardson, who had played quite brilliantly for his 64 off only 76 balls, dragged his back foot trying to sweep Qadir and was smartly stumped by Aamer Malik.

This was the fourth wicket to fall at 128, after Carl Hooper on 13 had needlessly run out at 118 having called Richardson for a single to Shoaib Mohammad at backward square leg and been sent back.

Gus Logie was another victim of the sweep, bowled round his legs for three by Qadir who had pitched deliberately throughout the final half hour.

Richards could not, however,

be similarly outwitted and knowing that his side's chances of victory rested with him, played with intense determination throughout the final half hour.

Scoreboard
PAKISTAN first innings 309
(Rameez Raja 54, Shoaib Mohammad 54, M. Marshall four for 79)

for 22, J. Lever three for 22). Essex 144 for two in 39.5 overs (P. Prichard 68 not out, G. Gooch 43). Essex two points.

At Leicester: Leicestershire 213 for eight innings closed (P. Willey 59, T. Boon 53, T. Jesty five for 39). Lancashire 46 for six off 19 overs. Match was to resume today.

Group B
At Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire beat Minor Counties by eight wickets. Minor Counties 133 in 54.2 overs (K. Saxby five for 21, F. Stephenson four for 14). Nottinghamshire 137 for two in 31 overs (C. Broad 52). Nottinghamshire two points.

Rice's old county Notts (137 for two) had an easy eight wicket victory over the Minor Counties (133 all out in 54.2 overs).

Results
Group A
At Glasgow: Derbyshire beat Scotland by seven wickets. Scotland 148 for nine innings

closed (D. Pauline 42, M. Holding three for 22). Derbyshire 149 for three in 45 overs (K. Barnett 66). Derbyshire two points.

At Leicester: Leicestershire 213 for eight innings closed (P. Willey 59, T. Boon 53, T. Jesty five for 39). Lancashire 46 for six off 19 overs. Match was to resume today.

Group C
At Cheelmsford: Essex beat Surrey by eight wickets. Surrey 143 in 52.1 overs (D. Topley four

for 22, J. Lever three for 22). Essex 144 for two in 39.5 overs (P. Prichard 68 not out, G. Gooch 43). Essex two points.

At Bristol: Gloucestershire 242 for seven innings closed (W. Athey 82, P. Bainbridge 47, A. Stovold 42). Combined Universities 139 for seven off 41 overs (M. Speight 46 not out, N. Hussain 44). Match was to resume today.

At Taunton: Hampshire beat Somerset by five wickets. Somerset 197 for eight innings closed (N. Felton 50, P. Roebuck 42, S. Jefferies three for 44). Hampshire 201 for five in 53.5 overs (M. Nicholas 72, V. Terry 47). Hampshire two points.

At Headingly: Yorkshire 116 for no wicket in 27 overs (M. Moxon 57 not out, A. Metcalfe 53 not out) v Northamptonshire. Match was to resume today.

World champion Anton Mang of West Germany skidded out seven laps later, but was unhurt.

The event was won by Spaniard Sito Pons.

Cardus recovering after injury

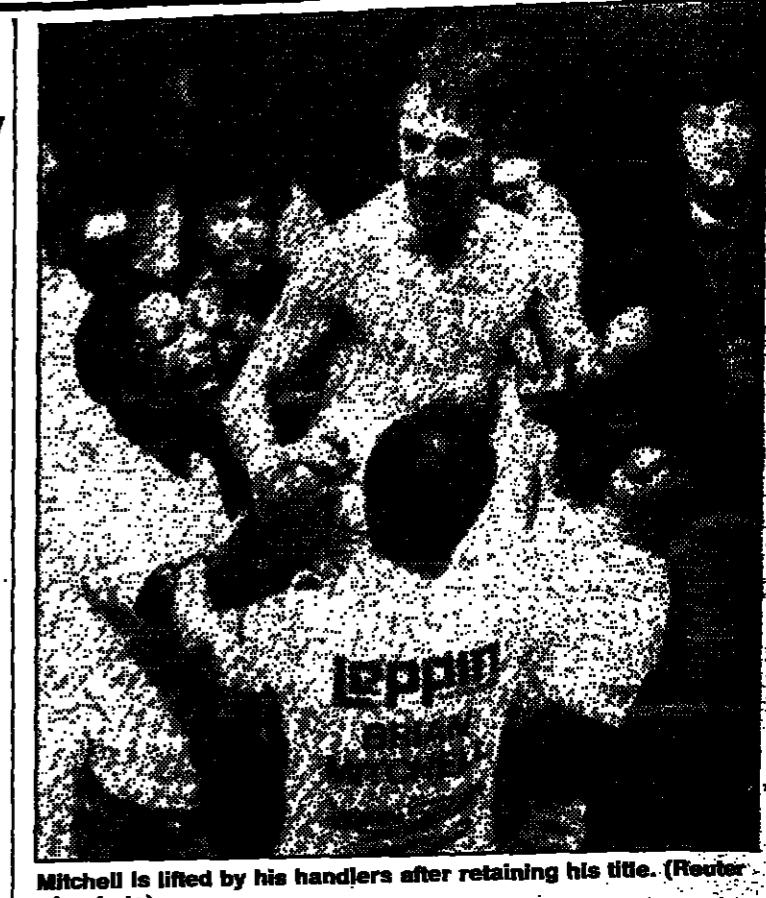
MADRID, April 27. (Reuter): Spanish motorcyclist Carlos Cardus is recovering from a bad crash in the 250cc Spanish Grand Prix event last Sunday, doctors said yesterday.

Cardus sustained head injuries when he crashed on the first bend at the start of the race.

World champion Anton Mang of West Germany skidded out seven laps later, but was unhurt.

The event was won by Spaniard Sito Pons.

ARAB TIMES, THURSDAY-FRIDAY, APRIL 28-29, 1988



Mitchell is lifted by his handlers after retaining his title. (Reuters wirephoto)

Mitchell retains crown

MADRID, April 27. (Reuter): Hard-hitting South African Brian Mitchell retained his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior-lightweight title with a unanimous points victory over Puerto Rico's Jose Rivera over earlier this morning.

Mitchell was making his fifth defence of the crown, the second as the cut on his left eye started bleeding, and from the seventh round the fight was Mitchell's.

Rivera, his left eye swollen, became more respectful of the champion who kept moving around him, piercing his defence with short-precise jabs.

The Puerto Rican lost strength as the cut on his left eye started bleeding, and from the seventh round the fight was Mitchell's.

Rivera went into the last two rounds desperately trying to make up ground, but the champion retained command of the fight.

"I was in full control," Mitchell said after receiving the champion's belt again.

"I may have lost the second round, but I was in control throughout," he said.

Mitchell first won the title from Panama's Alfredo Layne two years ago.

Mitchell weighed in at 59.3 kilograms, and Rivera's weight was 58.6 kilograms.

Two Polish boxers reported missing

KARLSRUHE, West Germany, April 27. (AP): Two Polish boxers attending the pre-Olympic International Boxing Tournament at Karlsruhe yesterday are missing and presumed to be seeking asylum in West Germany.

Ivo Stanislaski, the head of

the official delegation with the Polish boxing team, informed

the Polish embassy in Cologne yesterday afternoon that 20-year-old Darius Michalecinski and Darius Kosedowski, 25, were missing, officials said.

Start

Rivera, 21, piqued by the draw on his home ground, made a fast start, flooring the 26-year-old South African in the last second of the second round with a powerful right.

But Mitchell kept out of his reach in the third, recovering



• Mehr Naveed Ahmed (centre) opens the Siddique Memorial Carrom tournament, which got underway at the Lalazar Hotel, Fahheel, earlier this week. Some of the matches between Fahheel and Khetan teams have already been held but the organisers have announced that the entries are still being accepted. The organising committee comprises chairman Mohammed Isfaq, president Mehr Naveed Ahmed and secretary Mohammed Baber. For details contact M. Idrees at the hotel after iftar.

THIS OFFER IS FROM APRIL 28-MAY 6

SO Hurry!

TRUCKLOAD OF SAVINGS

Salmiya: 6719630

Shuwaikh 4641074

Fahheel: 3820291/3

Salwa: 5636790

The Sultan Center bought your favorite products by the truckload, and the savings we get, WE PASS ON TO YOU! That's why, with us, you SAVE MORE than ever before.

So hurry! Visit us today! When you see how much you can save, we're sure you'll be back for another TRUCKLOAD OF SAVINGS.

EDET
Toilet Paper
4 rolls

24-PC ENTERTAINER BEVERAGE SET
Made in U.S.A.



KD 2.500



KD 1.300

7-PC BEVERAGE SET
(6-glasses/1 water jug)
Made in U.S.A.



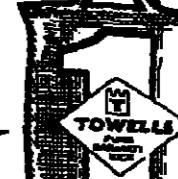
750 Fils



KD 1.490

EDET
TOILET PAPER
4 ROLLS

310 Fils



TOWELS
Pure Basmati Rice

ARMED TIMES

Published by
Bar Al-Seyasat

Editor-in-Chief:
Ahmed Al-Jarrab
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat, Kuwait.

Telex:
22332 KT

Telephones:
4813566 (main lines)

Advertiser:
4813522/7

Annual Subscriptions:
Individuals KD 450
Companies and Organisations
Departments KD 500
(Annual charges apply for
overseas subscribers)